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PUBLICATIONS OF THE RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEW SERIES

103282

VOLUME VIII. 1900

PROVIDENCE
PRINTED FOR THE SOCIETY BY SNOW & FARNHAM
1900

Committee on Publication:

J. Franklin Jameson, Amasa M. Eaton,
Edward Field.

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NEW SERIES

VOL. VIII APRIL, 1900 NO. 1

WHOLE NUMBER, 29

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J. Franklin Jameson, Amasa M. Eaton,

Edward Field.

This quarterly is issued on the first of April, July, October, and January. Price, $1.00 a year; single numbers, 50 cents each. A few sets of the quarterly (seven volumes) can be obtained at the Cabinet, at $1.50 a volume.

OFFICERS

OF THE

RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY,

ELECTED JANUARY 9, 1900.

President.

JOHN H. STINESS.

Vice-Presidents.

JOHN NICHOLAS BROWN, J. FRANKLIN JAMESON.

Secretary.

WILFRED H. MUNRO.

Treasurer.

RICHMOND P. EVERETT.

Librarian and Cabinet-Keeper.

CLARENCE S. BRIGHAM.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Nominating Committee.

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THEODORE F. GREEN.

Library Committee.

WILLIAM D. ELY, HENRY R. CHACE,
CLARENCE S. BRIGHAM.

Lecture Committee.

WILLIAM B. WEEDEN, JOHN T. BLODGETT,
WILLIAM B. MEAD.

Publication Committee.

J. FRANKLIN JAMESON, AMASA M. EATON,
EDWARD FIELD.

Committee on Grounds and Buildings.

ISAAC H. SOUTHWICK, JR., EDWIN BARROWS,
NORMAN M. ISHAM.

Committee on Genealogical Researches.

JOHN O. AUSTIN, GEORGE T. HART,
FRED A. ARNOLD.

Committee on Necrology.

WILFRED H. MUNRO, ROBERT GRIEVE,
CLARENCE S. BRIGHAM.

Finance Committee.

ROBERT H. I. GODDARD, CHARLES H. SMITH,
RICHMOND P. EVERETT.

Audit Committee.

JAMES BURDICK, FERDINAND A. LINCOLN,
OLIVER S. CRESSY.

Procurators.

For Newport,	GEORGE GORDON KING.
Woonsocket,	LATIMER W. BALLOU.
Pawtucket,	SAMUEL M. CONANT.
North Kingstown,	DAVID S. BAKER.
Hopkinton,	GEORGE H. OLNEY.
Glocester,	ALBERT POTTER.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY,

1899-1900.

At a meeting held February 7, 1899, Capt. John R. Bartlett, U. S. N., addressed the Society on "The Operations of the Navy Department in the War with Spain."

February 21, 1899, Hon. Amos Perry, LL. D., Secretary of the Society, gave an address entitled "Some Recollections of Men, Scenes, and Events at Harvard University Sixty Years Ago."

March 7, 1899, Mr. Edward Fuller read a paper entitled "A Defence of Charles I. of England."

April 4, 1899, a regular quarterly meeting was held. The Librarian made his quarterly report. A resolution offered by Mr. Paine at the last regular quarterly meeting was withdrawn. The following named persons were elected active members: Martha Ann Dodge, of Billerica, Mass.; John Fretwell, Edward Bell Gardner, and Harriet Webb Greenwood, of Providence; and William Mackey Peckham, of Troy, New York.

Professor J. F. Jameson, chairman of a special committee on the proposition to raise the annual tax from three to five dollars, reported that one hundred and seventy-six members had been heard from, of whom ninety-four favored the increase, sixty-eight opposed it, and fourteen made neutral replies. The committee was continued.

A resolution offered by Mr. Amasa M. Eaton was, after amendment, adopted, as follows:

Whereas, A copy of all that remains of the oldest volume of the records of Portsmouth has been secured at considerable expense by this society, it is therefore

Voted, That the General Assembly of the State be, and it is hereby memorialized, to print the said volume;

Voted, That the secretary communicate a copy of these resolutions to the Governor of the State.

The thanks of the society were voted to Mr. William W. Hoppin, of New York, for his gift of the work entitled *Universities and their Sons.*

July 11, 1899, the second quarterly meeting of the Society was held. The Secretary, Hon. Amos Perry, being absent by reason of illness, Mr. Isaac H. Southwick, Jr., was elected secretary *pro tempore.* The usual report of the Librarian was presented. The special committee on the proposition to raise the annual tax from three to five dollars reported, as requested, the number of life members among those voting *pro* and *contra.* The following named persons were elected active members: Frank Greene Bates, of Alfred, N. Y.; Clarence Saunders Brigham, of Providence; Adeline M. Dyer, of Olneyville; Mary Alice Keach, of Providence; John P. Sanborn, of Newport; Frederic Clark Sayles, of Pawtucket; and William Watts Sherman, of Newport.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the treasurer be, and he is hereby authorized to pay out of the Dr. Charles W. Parsons Improvement

Fund, such bills as shall be incurred for the work of supplying a stack for newspapers, three glass doors for book-shelves, for the painting of the roof and for incidental repairs; said bills to be audited by the committee on grounds and buildings, and the amount not to exceed $150.

The President made a statement concerning the supposed site of Roger Williams's house and spring, on the East Providence side of the Seekonk River, near Phillipsdale. On motion of Professor Wilfred H. Munro it was

Voted, That the President, and such others as he shall appoint, be a committee to investigate and report upon this matter. Under this vote, a committee consisting of the following gentlemen was raised: Hon. John H. Stiness, Hon. Frederic C. Sayles, Dr. William B. Mead, Mr. Edwin A. Smith, and Professor Wilfred H. Munro.

October 13, 1899, the third quarterly meeting of the Society was held. Mr. Isaac H. Southwick, Jr., was continued as secretary *pro tempore.*

Remarks were made in commemoration of the life of Hon. Amos Perry, LL. D., Secretary of the Society, and of his services in its behalf. Professor Wilfred H. Munro presented the following memorial for adoption by the society, and for transcription upon its records:

"Amos Perry, LL. D., died in New London, Conn., August 10th, 1899. Twenty-six years ago Mr. Perry became the Secretary of the Rhode Island Historical Society. He found a society poor in resources, weak in membership, painfully lacking in enthusiasm. Its cabinet was too small; its library was not catalogued; its collections were almost inaccessible. It had well-nigh ceased to fulfill the purpose for which it was founded and was apparently drifting rapidly to decay. Mr. Perry felt, as intensely as a man could feel, that it was his function to steer it away from the dangers that menaced it,

[redacted]

[redacted] remarks expressing [illegible] appreciation of Mr. Perry's character and services, by Mr. Asa M. Gammell, Dr. Henry M. King, Hon. Horatio Rogers, Mr. Daniel A. Cooke, Mr. George T. Paine, Hon. Joshua M. Addeman, and Mr. William C. Ely, and after the reading of letters of similar tenor from Miss Caroline Hazard, Mr. Nathaniel Holmes, and Mr. John J. Austin, with concluding remarks by the President, the memorial was unanimously adopted and ordered to be recorded.

Reports of progress were made by several committees. The committee on the proposition for increasing the annual dues reported that, up to the present time, one hundred and three votes had been cast in favor of the proposition, and sixty-nine against it; and that it seemed inadvisable for the Society to take definite action upon the matter at the present time.

The following named persons were elected active members: Frank Convers Mathewson, of Barrington; William Carey Poland, of Providence; and Adeline Harris Sears, of Providence.

Hon. Horatio Rogers presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed, to consist of the President as chairman, and four others to be nominated by him, whose duty it shall be to present at the annual meeting candidates for Secretary, Librarian, Cabinet-Keeper, and any other officers they may see fit; with leave to report by resolution, or otherwise, any measure they may deem for the best interests of the Society; and also with leave to make a partial report at any special meeting, as the interests of the Society, in their opinion, may require.

The committee, raised by the foregoing resolution, was constituted by the President as follows: Hon. John H. Stiness, Hon. Horatio Rogers, Professor J. F. Jameson, Mr. Alfred Stone, and Mr. Edward Field.

Mr. John T. Blodgett and Dr. William B. Mead were elected members of the lecture committee, in the places of the late Mr. Perry and Dr. Guild.

Mr. William D. Ely gave notice of proposed amendments to the by-laws, the purport of which was to restore Sections 12, 16, and 20 into the same form as that which they bear in the printed pamphlet containing the by-laws of the Society.

December 26, 1899, Rev. Dr. Edward Everett Hale gave before the society, in Manning Hall, an illustrated lecture on "Some Inquiries regarding Early Rhode Island History."

January 8, 1900, Colonel Charles Francis Adams, LL. D., lectured before the Society, in Sayles Memorial Hall, on "Civilian Treatment of Military Operations."

The seventy-eighth annual meeting of the society was held on January 9, 1900, the President being in the chair.

On motion of the nominating committee the following named persons, all of Providence, were elected active members:

Austin Dowling, William H. P. Faunce, Isaac L. Hunt, Francello George Jillson, Gertrude Selwyn Kimball, and Eleanor J. Roelker.

The President gave his annual address.

The Treasurer presented his annual report, together with a written statement of approval by the Audit Committee.

The annual reports of the following committees were presented: The Committee on Grounds and Buildings, the Library Committee, the Lecture Committee, the Publication Committee, and the Committee on Genealogical Researches.

Hon. Horatio Rogers presented the report of the special committee appointed to nominate candidates for Secretary, Librarian, Cabinet-Keeper and other offices.

The annual election of officers and members of the standing committees resulted in the choice of those gentlemen whose names are given in the list on pages 1 and 2.

The amendments to the by-laws proposed at the October meeting were considered separately and rejected.

It was voted, That the salary of the librarian for the ensuing year be fixed at $800, and that $550 be appropriated for the use of the Publication Committee during the year.

On motion of Mr. Richmond P. Everett, the thanks of the society were presented to Mr. Lewis J. Chace, for his services upon the Audit Committee, from which he now retires; and to Mr. Isaac H. Southwick, Jr., for his recent services as Secretary *pro tempore.*

At each of the meetings held during the year for the reading of papers, the thanks of the Society were voted to the lecturer of the evening.

ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT.

As we gather at this annual meeting the first common impression is a sense of loss. We miss the familiar form at the secretary's desk, where for nearly twenty-six years our late associate, the Hon. Amos Perry, LL. D., recorded the proceedings of this society. At the last quarterly meeting a memorial minute was entered on our records and appreciative tributes to his memory and service were paid by several members. No one has been so actively engaged, for so long a time, in the work of this society, since it was organized, as he. He was not merely the secretary for more than a quarter of a century and the librarian for more than eighteen years, but he devoted himself so completely, so zealously, so vigorously to its welfare, that, despite his more than fourscore years, we wonder who can fill his place. In the roll of those to whom the gratitude of this society is due the name of Amos Perry will always have a place.

The list of members who have died during the year is unusually large and includes six who have been connected with the society for more than twenty years. The names and dates of admission are as follows: — Life members, Mary H. Knowles, 1890; Amos Perry, 1858; Lucian Sharpe, 1890; Active members, George W. B. Bourn, 1891; J. Russell Bullock, 1884; Albert L. Calder, 1891; Horatio N. Campbell, 1876; Reuben A. Guild, 1853 and 1887; Henry A. Hidden, 1873; James M. Kimball, 1876; Horatio N. Slater, 1877; Edward P. Taft, 1896; Edward Thayer, 1897; Zephaniah Williams, 1881; Marshall Woods, 1876.

There are now but seven members who antedate 1860. The senior member is ex-Chief-Justice Durfee, admitted in 1849. Then follow Col. William Goddard, 1850; Mr. Asa Messer Gammell, 1855; ex-Gov. Royal C. Taft, 1856; Richmond P. Everett, (our treasurer for the last thirty-three years), 1858; Hon. William Binney, 1858; and Mr. George B. Calder, 1859.

Since the death of our secretary and librarian, in August last, the routine of the library has gone on as usual. I appointed Isaac H. Southwick, Jr., Esq., who was chosen secretary *pro tem.* at the quarterly meeting in July, to continue in that office after the death of Mr. Perry, under Section 15 of the by-laws. The remaining members of the Library Committee have had constant and careful oversight and direction of the library and the work of the cabinet. All of the assistants have taken special pains during the interim and their fidelity is appreciated.

It was thought best to take ample time to secure a person whose training and skill would fit him for the important duties of librarian, upon whom the success and usefulness of the society so much depends. At the October meeting a committee was appointed for that purpose, who, after careful consideration, will report to you this evening.

For valuable service meanwhile, Messrs. Ely and Chace are entitled to our grateful acknowledgment. Equally are we under obligation to Professor Jameson, of the Publication Committee, for taking charge of the October and January numbers of our quarterly *Publications* and doing the large amount of work which is involved in their preparation and issue.

Grateful mention should also be made of the Lecture Committee, who took up the task, so long performed by Mr. Perry, of providing a course of lectures during the months from fall to spring. With the numerous calls upon the time of our people, it seemed best to have these meetings once a month, as recommended by the committee last year, instead of twice a month, and a course has been arranged, which will be reported by that committee.

The number of books issued during the year shows that interest in matters pertaining to this state is still active and covers a wide range.

"Vol. X., No. 2., Columbia University Series of Studies in History," &c., is *Rhode Island and the Formation of the Union*, by Frank Greene Bates, Ph. D., Assistant Professor of History and Political Science in Alfred University. The author tells us that the subject was suggested by the address at the centennial of Rhode Island's adoption of the Constitution, May 29, 1890, by Mr. Justice Rogers, then President of this society. Excellent as it was, the limits of an address would not allow the detail and extent of examination which Professor Bates is able to give in his book of over two hundred pages, which is not confined to the event itself, but seeks to discover the causes which moved both to opposition and adoption. It is divided into six chapters, the first four of which are devoted to the previous history of the colony, in order to show the characteristics and conditions developed in that century and a half which were potent factors in dividing our people on this important matter. Rhode Island has been much misunderstood in regard to her hesitancy in entering the Union. As the smallest of all the states, no doubt she was timid and jealous of her independence and permanent integrity, but it was from no want of loyalty and no lack of faith in a federal union. In her town meetings Rhode Island was the first to propose a Continental Congress, in her assembly, the first to elect delegates to it; and she elected delegates to the Annapolis Convention called for the same general purpose as the Philadelphia Convention, which framed the Constitution. As Judge Rogers clearly pointed out, it was not the paper-money heresy which held Rhode Island back. The larger part of the opponents of the Constitution happened to be, perhaps naturally, of that party and so it formed the nucleus of the Anti-Federal party. But the real cause was the doubt about the propriety of the new scheme, because the constitu-

tional union was to be quite different and much more binding than the Confederation.

The same opposition was shown in other states and, as we now look back, the wonder is that in them the result was accomplished so quickly, even if we do not wonder that it was accomplished at all. Rightly studied the result is no discredit to Rhode Island. To my mind, the most significant fact appears in the speedy acceptance of the Constitution, at the adjourned session of the convention, after eight states had ratified the first ten amendments, so that Rhode Island's acceptance insured their adoption. The first, embracing religious freedom, and the tenth, relating to the reserved powers of the states, were of vital interest in Rhode Island.

Chapter V. of Professor Bates's book gives the account of the adoption of the Constitution, and Chapter VI. relates to the amendments and general conclusions. The order of arrangement is logical and helpful; the views are comprehensive and impartial and the author's work is careful and critical. Professor Bates has done justice to his native state and credit to himself in the treatise he has given us.

Another notable book is: "*A Letter Book and Abstract of Out-Services*, written during the years 1743–1751 by the Reverend James MacSparran, Doctor in Divinity and sometime Rector of St. Paul's Church, Narragansett, Rhode Island, Edited, with a sketch of the author and numerous notes, by the Reverend Daniel Goodwin, Ph. D., lately Rector of the same Parish. Printed and published by D. Berkeley Updike, The Merrymount Press, Chestnut Street, Boston, A. D. 1899." This manuscript diary was discovered, about thirty years ago, in the attic of the Rev. Dr. Caswell's house, just back of this Cabinet, on Angell Street, and given to Dr. Goodwin, then Rector of St. Paul's Church, Wickford, who placed it in the archives of the diocese, where it remained until he prepared it for publication. It covers not only ministerial duties, but numerous journeys to Newport, Boston and other places, stating where

he stopped, whom he met and many things of historical interest. The notes by the learned editor, numbering more than four hundred, are copious, particular, illuminative and valuable. Probably no other person than Dr. Goodwin could have edited the diary so well. His knowledge of the country and its families, his scholarly habits and historical taste, his professional training and patient study, his interest in the subject and his grace as a writer, gave him advantages which could hardly be combined in another. His work has brought to light pages never read before by the public, and gives us a near view of a time which has left few relics.

The print, like all that comes from Mr. Updike's press is a work of art. It is pleasing to note that Dr. Goodwin is a member of this Society.

Another book, partly in the form of a diary, entitled: *Journal of William Jefferay, Gentleman,* has been brought out in attractive form by our associate, Mr. John O. Austin, who modestly, or with quiet humor, styles himself the editor. It pictures life in Massachusetts Colony and in Newport from 1623 to 1675. The diary is written so naturally, with so many touches of the time, it is hard to believe that it is not what it purports to be, the daily jotting of the real person who is put forth as its writer. It is needless to say that the editorial work, which our friend avows, forms an important part, full of much valuable information in history, genealogy and nature. Old-time legends are brought out through the "Seven Club." As a work of fiction it is skilful, interesting, instructive, historical. Again it is pleasing to note that the author is a member of this society and actively interested in its work.

Another member, Miss Caroline Hazard, Litt. D., President of Wellesley College, has given a sketch of religious life in a book entitled: *The Narragansett Friends' Meeting in the Eighteenth Century, with a chapter on Quaker Beginnings in Rhode Island.* It is the outgrowth of a paper read before

this society in September, 1894, and it is based upon the records of the Friends' meetings, which are largely quoted. An appendix is added: "A Quaker's Sea Journal, Being a True Relation of a Voyage to New England Performed by Robert Fowler of the Town of Burlington in Yorkshire, in the year 1658."

Taken as it is from original records it is authentic and valuable. One might not think that such a book would be entertaining, as well as instructive, but it certainly is.

Another member, Edward Field, Esq., to whom we are indebted for several important volumes of historical works, gives us still another diary, this one of the Revolutionary period. It is: "*Diary of Colonel Israel Angell,* Commanding the Second Rhode Island Continental Regiment during the American Revolution 1778–1781, Transcribed from the Original Manuscript, Together with a Biographical Sketch of the Author and Illustrative Notes by Edward Field, A. B., Historian of the Rhode Island Society of the Sons of the American Revolution." The last title is one which has been well earned. The diary, with its full and careful annotations, is one of the most interesting books of its kind that has been published. It is a story told and judgment passed at the same time, by an actor in the scenes, on all things as he saw them, neither discolored nor distorted by the lapse of time. So little of contemporaneous review has come down from the day of the Revolution that every bit should be preserved. It is gratifying that such a contribution comes from Rhode Island, through the persistent search and effort of one of our members, who brought its scattered parts together.

Still again we turn to a member for an elaborate work entitled: *The Life and Work of Thomas Dudley, the Second Governor of Massachusetts,* by Augustine Jones, A. M., LL. B. Many of you will remember the interesting sketch which Mr. Jones gave here about two years ago, from parts of this work, then in progress. For this reason an extended reference to

the book would be out of place. But as it touches upon Dudley's connection with the banishment of Roger Williams, I cannot refrain from referring to that part.

The author undertakes to justify Dudley, but it is unfortunate that he should do so on ground so utterly untenable as that Williams was banished "solely on political grounds, simply on a question of public policy, which had nothing to do with religious liberty. Soul liberty was an afterthought with him."

This is an astounding statement. A single glance at the charges shows the contrary. According to Winthrop the charges were: "First. That the magistrate ought not to punish the breach of the first table, otherwise than in such cases as disturb the civil peace. Secondly. That he ought not to tender an oath to an unregenerated man. Thirdly. That a man ought not to pray with such, etc. Fourthly. That a man ought not to give thanks after sacrament," &c.

Are these political questions? Could the distinctive doctrine of Williams be more clearly put than in this first charge? The vote which followed does not repeat the charges; but why should it, when it finds that Williams "hath broached and divulged divers new and dangerous opinions against the authority of magistrates and churches here," &c.? The finding is responsive to the charges, and the views of Williams about the authority of magistrates are perfectly well known. This defence for Massachusetts is not a new one. It has been tried and battered down before now, and I had supposed that it was an abandoned ruin. The mistake of such a position is in thinking that, to justify Massachusetts, it must be made to appear that the magistrates did not banish Williams on religious grounds. But this is not so. The magistrates were honest and sincere in their opinions and doubtless did just what they and nearly all around them thought was right. They could do no more. As Mr. Straus has said: "The whole structure of society was permeated with fanaticism and theo-

cratic dogma, and the legislator was a Calvinist, who emphasized the authority of the state to coerce the opinions of thinking men to conform to ecclesiastical rule."

It was not the fault of the magistrates that they had not the vision of Williams and that they could not rise above the opinions in which they had ever trod. There has never been any doubt about the cause of the banishment, and it is now too late to question it. It cannot be reduced to a simple police measure. The grounds were formally argued and the ministers were summoned in to sit with the magistrates. Why the ministers, if it was merely a police or political question? The judgment of nearly three centuries has stood upon the solid fact and it will remain. The views of our associate are accounted for by the fact that, he being a Massachusetts man, they have been somewhat clouded by an inherited haze. It is due to him, however, to say that he has evidently striven to do justice to Williams, although not in quite the correct way. Mr. Jones's book is elegantly illustrated and the work, as a whole, is one that does credit to his research.

One of our life members, Amasa M. Eaton, Esq., has made a studious review of *Constitution-Making in Rhode Island*, which is brought out in pamphlet form. As it has been noticed in the *Nation*, October 5, 1899, and in our January quarterly *Publication*, I need not refer to it at length. It contains many interesting facts of our history, which are well worthy of our attention, apart from the legal or political conclusions drawn from them by the author. Mr. Eaton has also, in another pamphlet, a reprint from the *Harvard Law Review*, considered the Suffrage Clause in the new constitution of Louisiana.

Mr. David W. Hoyt, Principal of the English Department of the Providence High School, has given his attention to genealogical work, in a book entitled: *The Old Families of Salisbury and Amesbury, Massachusetts*, published in parts from 1897 to 1899. It makes a volume of about four hun-

dred pages, and it appears to be exact and full, as we should expect it to be, from its author. Numerous notes add historical information. This contribution to Massachusetts history shows that our members are not wholly engrossed in that which pertains only to ourselves.

In this number of books brought out by our members, the society follows somewhat the Rhode Island idea of individualism. Our corporate action may not have been extensive, but individual effort has been prolific. The list of such work, if made up, would be varied and long and worthy.

Historic Gleanings in Windham County, Connecticut, by Ellen D. Larned, is not only published in Providence by the Preston and Rounds Co., but the territory to which it relates is separated from our towns only by an invisible boundary line; the book also has a chapter on Windham County and Providence. It traces the intercourse between the two localities, from Indian times down, in the charming way with which we have become familiar in Miss Larned's writings, not as a history, but as an account of incidents, curious and interesting, which throw light on the life of the time and place.

"*The Birds of Rhode Island*, by Reginald Heber Howe, Jr., member of the Nuttall Ornithological Club, and Edward Sturtevant, S. B., Instructor of Natural Sciences at Saint George's School, Newport, Member of the American Ornithological Union," was issued last fall and is by far the most complete and authoritative work upon this subject that has ever been published. It contains a brief review of former publications; a chapter on migration; a list of breeding birds; an annotated list of about three hundred species and nearly two hundred bibliographical references. An index of scientific, vernacular and local names makes the contents of the book easily attainable. Six illustrations are added.

A history of the Roman Catholic Church in New England is in publication, the first volume, containing an account of its growth in this state, by the Rev. Austin Dowling, having

recently appeared. It is written for popular use and in a fair spirit. It recognizes the religious freedom of this state from the earliest time and, although it refers to the exception of Roman Catholics, which first appeared in the public laws of 1719, continued in the subsequent digests until its repeal in 1783, it shows that there was no practical difficulty, because there were no Romanists here. The author also perceives that the friction between natives and foreigners, after immigration set in, was not due to racial antipathies, but to the natural jealousy of those who saw strangers coming to compete for their work and crowding them out of their usual employment. We see the same thing repeated now in the relation of older to newer claims of foreigners when the latter push the former out of their accustomed places. Some incidents are referred to, indicating spasmodic hostility, which only emphasizes the fact that, notwithstanding such episodes, Romanists have always been prosperous and unmolested in Rhode Island.

"*Pictures of Rhode Island in the Past*, 1642–1833, by Travellers and Others, edited by Gertrude Selwyn Kimball," is a unique collection. It consists of extracts from writings, as its title states, of those who have seen Rhode Island, in residence or travel, and it gives their impressions and descriptions of men and things. It presents a picture of Rhode Island as it was, recalling conditions and places now forgotten, and giving us a chance, as to our past, "to see ourselves as others see us."

In all these varied paths is our history traced, showing how much there is to engage the student and to interest the reader.

At our meeting in January 1895, a committee was appointed to request the State House Commissioners to place above the dome of the new capitol a statue of Roger Williams, in case of a decision that the finial should be a statue. The committee appeared before the commissioners and urged the propriety of such a selection, if there was to be a statue, but,

as that question had not then been settled, no definite response was made. Recently a statue has been erected. No official statement has been made whether it is intended for an architectural or an allegorical finish; nor, if it is the latter, what it represents.

It is the nude figure of a man, with a lion's-skin girdle, grasping a spear in one hand and an anchor in the other. It is certainly not historical. As its meaning is not apparent, we must await official explanation as to what it stands for. From its small size it is not easily discernible and so it serves merely as an architectural finish. As such it is quite in keeping with its insignificance in symbolism.

At the last July meeting a committee was appointed to take steps to mark the location of the house first built by Roger Williams, after his banishment, near the east bank of the Seekonk River. The traditional spot is in the rear of the old Daggett house, at the corner of Wilson and Roger Williams Avenues, near Phillipsdale in East Providence. A small excavation, at the end of a bank wall, is said to be the place where the house stood. By a change in lines this spot was to be taken into the street. Of course the first thing to be done was to ascertain the authenticity of the tradition, but members of the committee applied to the Town Council and to the Union Railroad Company to mark the site, in case it should be satisfactorily established. The suggestion was that bound-stones should be placed in the pavement at the corners of the excavation and to this the company courteously assented. Careful search has been made by the committee for all available evidence bearing on the tradition and, while it is by no means probable that the sources of information have been exhausted, there seems to be enough to sustain it and even more than can be found for most traditions.

Direct evidence of the location could not be expected. A wanderer seeking a spot for a house in the wilderness does not make a record of his location. Doubtless Williams would

have had a deed, if he had been suffered to stay on the Seekonk side, but he was not. The stop at Seekonk was brief. It was about the middle of January 1636, when he left Salem. On January 11, the Governor and Assistants met to consider that after his sentence of banishment he continued to preach upon the points for which he had been censured, and it was agreed to send him to England by a ship then ready to depart. A warrant was sent for him and he returned answer that he could not come, whereupon a pinnace was sent with commission to Capt. Underhill to apprehend him and carry him aboard the ship; but when they came to his house they found that he had gone three days before (Knowles, p. 93.)

In his letter to Major Mason, Williams said that he was "sorely tossed for one fourteen weeks, in a bitter winter season," and also, "I first pitched and began to build and plant at Seekonk, now Rehoboth." This would carry him to the latter part of April, before he built, and he remained there only until the middle or latter part of June, about two months, when he received notice from Gov. Winslow to remove to the other side of the river. It must have been a small and rude structure that he built, or "began to build," in that time. A walled cellar would be improbable, but an excavation, enough to protect vegetables from frost, would be quite likely, and such an excavation remained at the place in question up to last summer. Places connected with Williams afterwards acquired a peculiar interest, and became well known — for example his landing at Slate Rock and Scott's spring, — and this fact renders it probable that his first building-place in Seekonk would not be overlooked. He must also have selected a place near a spring, for water, as he did at Providence, and near by the Seekonk lot is a spring still running, which has been known as Roger Williams Spring as far back as can now be traced.

In the Moses Brown Papers, in this Cabinet, Vol. 18, No. 22, is the copy of a statement declared to be in the handwriting of Elder James Brown, grandson of Chad Brown, one of the early settlers in Providence and one intimate with Williams, which says: "He came to a place since called Manton's Neck."

So far we have very clear evidence of the vicinity. In Bliss's *History of Rehoboth*, published in 1836, in a note on page 17, the author says: "Prof. Knowles, in his *Memoir of Roger Williams*, says in a note, p. 101, that the venerable Moses Brown assured him that he had ascertained this fact to his own satisfaction. Since commencing this history I called on Mr. Brown, to know the grounds on which he assured himself of this fact; he told me that he some years since found, among the manuscripts of his grandfather, a paper which stated that Roger Williams lived near a spring on Manton's Neck. He said that, immediately on finding this paper, he rode to Seekonk to ascertain, if possible, where Roger Williams lived; but three different springs were pointed out to him, on Manton's Neck, by different individuals, as Roger Williams's Spring — all within the compass of half a mile. There are now four springs within that space, one having broken out since Mr. Brown visited the spot; and I am informed by the oldest of the inhabitants that two of the four have broken out within their recollection. Of the two remaining, the one on the land of Mr. Hammond Cole has the highest claim to being the spring in question. It is the largest and best and the water boils from the ground rapid and clear; whereas the other, a short distance to the south-east of this, has more of the appearance of a mud-puddle. Tradition also points most clearly to this."

The tradition, to which Mr. Bliss alluded, was, doubtless, that in the Daggett family, in the north-west corner of whose lot was the spot where it was claimed that the house had stood, as stated in his next note on page 18. This tradition

was brought out at length in the *Providence Sunday Journal*, January 15, 1899. According to that report, Samuel Daggett, born in the old Daggett house on the lot, died in 1891; his mother Martha Daggett was born in the same house about 1776; her father Major Daggett born there about 1740; his father about 1700; and his father, who built the house, was there before 1700. On a beam in an old building, which stood near by and which was torn down in 1859, the words, "Carpenter & Daggett 1680", were cut. Along the westerly line of the lot was built a stone wall, which stopped, unfinished, at the excavation referred to, for the reason, as handed down, that the Daggett who built the wall, although his land extended further north, would not carry the wall on, nor fill the hole, because he held the spot as consecrated ground and so left the broken wall as a monument of the fact. The wall and excavation so remained when we saw them last summer. Thus tradition, going back to the lifetime of Roger Williams, comes down to the time of Moses Brown's and Mr. Bliss's inquiries through only four or five persons, living on the spot, with the visible memorials to keep it alive. This array of evidence would be satisfactory, in any court, as a well-founded tradition. I ask that any member or person who can throw any further light on this matter give it to the committee before the next April meeting. We of Rhode Island should surely be as alert to mark any spot connected with our founder as strangers are. As an incentive, let me remind you that during the past year a tablet has been placed on the walls of the Charterhouse in London, bearing this inscription:

IN MEMORY OF
ROGER WILLIAMS,
Formerly a scholar of Charterhouse 1624.
Founder of the State of Rhode Island and
The Pioneer of Religious Liberty in America.

Placed here by Oscar S. Straus,
United States Minister to Turkey, 1899.

For other matters usually mentioned in the President's address I refer you to the reports of the Treasurer and the several committees. These speak for themselves and cover the ground better than I can do. I will detain you only to suggest that this may be a suitable time to take active steps to increase our membership, to systematize our finances by definite appropriations to each committee, and to make our quarterly meetings more fitly the meetings of an Historical Society, by the consideration of historical subjects in conference or in some other way. As an experiment, we might discuss the location of Williams's house in Seekonk at the next meeting, many members trying to bring some further evidence or arguments bearing on the question.

I am convinced that there was never a more general feeling of the importance of a society like this, and I trust that we may so join in enthusiasm and interest in its welfare that as we come to the close of the century we may say of the coming year, with Berkeley:

"Time's noblest offspring is the last."

REPORT OF THE TREASURER.

General Account.

Richmond P. Everett, Treasurer, in account with the Rhode Island Historical Society.

Dr.

1900.		
Jan. 9.	Cash on hand, balance of account of 1899,	$54 88
	Interest from investments of Samuel M. Noyes, Henry J. Steere, John Wilson Smith, and William G. Weld,	1,392 31
	Taxes from 303 members,	909 00
	Fees from 18 new members,	90 00
	Interest from Life Membership Fund,	121 70
	Interest from Publication Fund,	126 00
	From Dr. C. W. Parsons Improvement Fund, as per vote, for building and grounds,	250 00
	From State of Rhode Island, appropriation,	217 25
	From sale of books and publications,	66 65
		$3,227 79

Cr.

1900.			
Jan. 9.	The expenses of the Library Committee for 1899,	$1,683 25	
	From the State of Rhode Island, appropriation,	1,284 75	398 50
	Salary of Librarian, eight months,		800 00
	Salary of Janitor,		360 00
	For Publications,		486 55
	For fuel and gas,		317 52
	For postage, meetings and express,		239 20
	For building and grounds,		284 53
	Cash on hand,		341 49
			$3,227 79

Providence, Jan. 9, 1900.

We have examined the above account and find it correct.

James Burdick,
Ferdinand A. Lincoln,
Audit Committee.

State of Rhode Island.

Richmond P. Everett, Treasurer, in account with the Rhode Island Historical Society.

Dr.

1900.		
Jan. 9.	Received in monthly payments of $125.00 for the year 1899,	$1,500 00
		$1,500 00

Cr.

1900.		
Jan. 9.	Paid to Library Committee,	$1,282 75
	Carried to General Account,	217 25
		$1,500 00

Dr. Charles W. Parsons Improvement Fund.

Dr.

1899.		
Jan. 9.	Cash on hand,	$4,520 92
1900.		
Jan. 9.	Interest from mortgage,	225 00
	Coupons from railroad,	45 00
	Interest from City Savings Bank,	21 77
		$4,812 69

Cr.

1900.		
Jan. 9.	For building and grounds,	$250 00
	Cash on hand, balance of account,	4,562 69
		$4,812 69

Life Membership Fund.

Dr.

1899.		
Jan. 9.	Cash on hand,	$3,143 76
	Wm. Watts Sherman, membership,	50 00
1900.		
Jan. 9.	Interest from Providence Institution for Savings and Mechanics Savings Bank, carried to General Account,	121 66
		$3,315 42

CR.

1900.		
Jan. 9.	Interest from savings banks,	$121 66
	Cash on hand, balance of account,	3,193 76
		$3,315 42

PUBLICATION FUND.

DR.

1899.		
Jan. 9.	Cash on hand,	$3,600 00
1900.		
Jan. 9.	Interest from R. I. Hospital Trust Co., carried to General Account,	126 00
		$3,726 00

CR.

1900.		
Jan. 9.	Interest from R. I. Hospital Trust Co.,	$126 00
	Cash on hand, balance of account,	3,600 00
		$3,726 00

GEORGE MOULTON CARPENTER MEMORIAL FUND.

DR.

1899.		
Jan. 9.	Cash on hand,	$210 00
		$210 00

CR.

1900.		
Jan. 9.	Cash on hand,	$210 00
		$210 00

Providence, Jan. 9, 1900.

We have examined the above accounts and find them correct.

JAMES BURDICK,
FERDINAND A. LINCOLN,
Audit Committee.

STATEMENT OF FUNDS, JANUARY 9, 1900. 1. INVESTMENT FUND.

Legacy of Samuel M. Noyes,		$12,000 00
" " Henry J. Steere,		10,000 00
" " John Wilson Smith,		1,000 00
" " William G. Weld,		1,000 00
Paid on mortgage,		50 00
		$24,050 00
Invested as follows:		
Mortgage secured by note,	$5,100 00	
" " " "	3,350 00	
" " " "	2,300 00	
" " " "	1,750 00	
" " " "	1,550 00	
" " " "	1,250 00	
Rhode Island Hospital Trust Co.,	50 00	
Six bonds Minneapolis Street R. R. Co.,	5,850 00	
30 shares Merchants National Bank,	1,800 00	
45 " Blackstone Canal National Bank,	1,050 00	
	$24,050 00	

2. PUBLICATION FUND.

Legacy of Ira B. Peck,	$1,000 00
" " William Gammell,	1,000 90
" " Albert J. Jones,	1,000 00
" " Julia Bullock,	500 00
" " Charles H. Smith,	100 00
	$3,600 00
Deposited in the Rhode Island Hospital Trust Co., participation account,	$3,600 00

3. LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND.

Providence Institution for Savings,	$1,090 90
Mechanics Savings Bank,	2,102 86

4. DR. CHARLES W. PARSONS IMPROVEMENT FUND.

Invested as follows:	
Mortgage secured by note,	$3,000 00
Richmond, York River and Chesapeake R. R. bond,	1,000 00
Cash in City Savings Bank,	562 69
	$4,562 69

5. GEORGE MOULTON CARPENTER MEMORIAL FUND.

Deposited in the Industrial Trust Co., ... $210 00

Providence, Jan. 9, 1900.
We have examined the above accounts and find them correct.
JAMES BURDICK,
FERDINAND A. LINCOLN,
Audit Committee.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON GROUNDS AND BUILDINGS.

To the Rhode Island Historical Society:

The Committee on Grounds and Buildings reports that the sum of $284.53 has been expended upon the building and its furnishings and for care of the grounds. This sum is relatively much larger than the usual annual outlay, and a large portion of it has been applied in putting the roof of the older part of the building in thorough repair, in renovation of the furnace, and in providing new stacks for newspapers, and new glass doors to bookshelves. All expenditures were authorized by appropriations previously obtained by vote of the Society. The property of the Society in charge of this Committee is in good condition.

Respectfully submitted for the Committee,

ISAAC H. SOUTHWICK, JR.,
Chairman.

Providence, January 9, 1900.

REPORT OF THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

The Library Committee, on this seventy-eighth annual meeting of the Society, beg leave to report:

That by reason of the much lamented death of our late Librarian, Amos Perry, LL. D., on the 10th day of August last, the care, oversight and direction of the Library and Cabinet, since that time, necessarily devolved on the surviving members of the Library Committee. They have therefore to ask your indulgence for a brief and condensed report, the minor details of the work and of its administration having been under the eye or in the hands of Mr. Perry, during the greater portion of the working year.

During the month of August, the Library was on every week-day open, as in the preceding year, from 10 A. M. to 1 P. M. In all other months the regular hours of opening and closing were maintained.

The additions to the collections of the Society, during the past year, have been as follows, viz.:

Bound volumes	396
Unbound volumes	954
Miscellaneous curiosities, works of art, etc	111
Total	1,461

The committee submit the following statement of their

expenditures for 1899, amounting in the aggregate to $1,683.25, divided as follows, viz. :

Books, periodicals, etc., bought for the Society	$248 75
Cataloguing, indexing and classifying books, records and manuscripts	633 25
Book-bindery bills, Rhode Island books and newspapers	55 60
Stationery, letter press (12″ x 18″), etc.	95 65
Administrative service, care and preservation of books.	650 00
[1] Total	$1,683 25

Of these accessions to the Library and Cabinet, the most remarkable, and one strictly unique, is the original and autograph "Deposition of Roger Williams," written June 18, 1682, and endorsed by him as "A record of Roger W^m^s his first and Constant transactions with th^e^ Natiues in this Bay."

The discovery of this valuable document, at so late a day, — more than two centuries since it was written, — and after many wanderings through New England and across this continent to Los Angeles on the Pacific Coast, is most surprising, and its recovery and return, like that of a long-lost child to its father's house, — its proper and lawful resting place for all time to come, — is a new illustration of the necessity your President insisted on, in his annual address, a year ago, for a "Special Fund," to meet any exigent demands for books and papers of exceeding rarity and value to Rhode Island history. These demands must generally be met, if at all, at almost the moment they appear. The ablest collectors concur in this, — that, as a rule, such finds and opportunities, once let pass, are not repeated a second time.

This deposition of Roger Williams has been printed three times — in Knowles's *Memoir of Roger Williams*, pp. 411–412; in the *R. I. Colonial Records*, I. 25–27; and in the

[1] Duplicates to the amount of $15 have been sold, and that amount deposited with the Treasurer, for safe keeping, till it can be applied, under the rule of the Society, to replace those sold with others more needed.

Narragansett Club edition of Roger Williams's letters, VI. 406–408. Since the original manuscript differs from these versions in several important particulars — notably, in reading "Cowweset Sachims" instead of "lowest sachems," and "travails of my owne person," instead of "travels of my own person," not to mention the original autograph endorsement — it has seemed best to print the document entire.[1]

Narriganset, 18 June 1682 (ut vulgo)

I testifie, as in th^e presence of th^e all making and all seeing God, th^t about fitie years Since I comming into this Narriganset Countrey I found a great Contest betweene three Sachims: Two, (to wit Caunounicus and Miantunnómu) were ag^nst Ousamaquin on Plymmouth side. I was forced to travel between them three, to pacifie, to satisfie all their and their Dependants spirits, of my honest Intentions to liue peaceably by them. I testifie th^t it was th^e generall and Constant declaration th^t Canounicus his Father had three sons whereof Caunounicus was th^e heire and his yonger brothers son Miantonomu (because of his Youth) was his Marshall, and Execution^r, and did nothing without his unckle Caunóunicus Consent: and therefore I declare to posteritie th^t were

[1] It should be understood that in this letter, and in all documents to be hereafter published, the Publication Committee adopt the practice of printing "and" wherever the sign "&" occurs in the manuscript, and "the" for the sign "y^e." The reason for this practice, now usual among the best editors, is in both cases the same, namely, that these are signs which in the seventeenth century were habitually used in manuscript but not in print. If Williams had himself printed the letter, he would have printed "and" and "the," though in manuscript he used an ampersand for the former, and for the latter the form "y^e." An additional reason for printing "the" or "th^e" in the latter case, is that technically the initial sign is not a "y," though often written in exactly the same shape, but a degenerate form of an Anglo-Saxon letter *th*, which is properly represented in pronunciation and in modern English print by "th." Thirdly, to print "y^e" helps to keep up, among the ignorant, the truly distressing habit of pronouncing the word, when they encounter it thus symbolized, as if it were the ancient pronoun of the second person plural, "ye."

As "y^e" is printed "the" so "y^t" is printed "th^t." It might be expanded into "that;" but here we come within the range of another rule, — that on the whole it is wisest, in printing an ancient manuscript, not to expand the writer's abbreviations, though he would in many cases have done so. — Ed.

it not for th^e favo^r th^t God gaue me with Caunounicus, none of these parts, no not Rode Iland had bene purchased or obtained, for I neuer got anything of Caunounicus but by Gift. I allso profess th^t being inquisitiue of what Roote th^e Title or denomination Náhigonset should come I heard th^t Nahigonset was so (named from a litle Iland) betweene Puttaquómscut and Mishquomacuk on th^e sea and fresh water side: I went on purpose to see it, and about th^e place called Sugar Loafe hill, I saw it and was within a pole of it, but could not learne why it was cald Nahigonset: I had learnt th^t th^e Massachuset was called so from th^e blew hils, a litle Iland there about: and Caunounicus father and Ancestors living in those Southern parts, transferd and brought their Authoritie and Name into these Northerne parts all along by th^e seaside as appears by th^e great destruction of wood all along neere th^e seaside. and I desire posteritie to see th^e gracious hand of th^e most High (in whose hand is all hearts) th^t when th^e Hearts of my Countrimen and Friends and Brethren, failed me, his infinite Wisdome and Mercy stird up th^e barbarous heart of Caunóunicus to loue me, as his son, to his last gaspe, by wch meanes I had not only Miantonomu and all th^e Cowweset Sachims my friends but Ousamaquin allso who because of my great friendship with him at Plymmouth, and th^e Authoritie of Caunounicus, consented freely (being allso well gratified by me) to th^e Govr Wintrops and my enioyment of Prudence, Yea of Providence itselfe and all th^e other lands I procured of Caunonicus wch were upon th^e point and in effect whatsoeuer I desired of him, and I neuere denied him nor Miantonómu what euer they desired of me, as to Goods or Gifts or use of my boats and pinnace and th^e travails of my owne person day and night wch though men know not nor care to know Yet th^e All-seeing eye hath seene it and his all powerfull hand hath helpd me, blessed be his holy name to Eternitie

ROGER WILLIAMS.

september the 28th 1704 I then being at the howse of m^{r} nathaniell Coddingtons hows ther being presented with this Ritten paper which I atest upon oath to be my ffathers one hand writeing

JOSEPH WILLIAMS,
Asistant

the within Euidence is placed to record in the Gen^{ll} Records of the Colony of Rhoad Island and Prouid^{e} Plantations pages 235. 236 ffeb: 11 1705

W^{m}St CLARKE Recd^{r}

Endorsed in Roger Williams's handwriting: "A record of Roger W^{m}s his first and Constant transactions with th^{e} Natiues in this Bay."

The cataloguing of the books in the three rooms on the lower floor, and of those in the east and genealogical rooms, on the second floor, has been completed. The books as yet not catalogued are those in the west rooms on the second floor, comprising the United States Documents, the publications of the Smithsonian Institution, and a body of miscellaneous pamphlets.

Many of our pamphlets are duplicates; some are the numbers necessary to complete sets which already have been placed on the shelves, or in the pamphlet division; while others form a miscellaneous collection. Since the erection of the new Cabinet and the repairs on the original building, many of the pamphlets in the gallery have been misplaced, while others have been removed from the pamphlet sections to the shelves with bound volumes, and in most instances, no note of these changes has been made in the catalogue. This now renders the catalogue practically of little use, either for reference or consultation, and it is of immediate importance that these disorders should be rectified.

As a first and preliminary step towards a remedy of this condition of things, time and labor not required to classify

and catalogue new books and pamphlets, has been spent since August last in sorting and arranging a mass of miscellaneous pamphlets stored in the southwest room on the second floor. Duplicates have been taken to the basement, while the others have been placed with the pamphlets in the gallery, note being taken of the same, preparatory to the re-arranging and re-cataloguing of all the pamphlets. That is apparently the most important task next to be taken up.

While the pamphlets form one of the most important and valuable departments of the library, yet the work they require is difficult and laborious. Their generally small size and extremely various dimensions, their immense number, their difference of dates and infinite variety of subjects make a proper and logical classification an embarrasing task for an experienced librarian. Still their value must not be overlooked, for, as a rule, it is the humble pamphlet which men of advanced views — the intellectual pioneers of every age, since the art of printing was devised — have seized on as the readiest means of awakening the minds of men to new developments of thought as to things human or divine.

The manuscript department for the past year has had constant and watchful care. Much faithful and valuable work has been accomplished both as to our own manuscripts and the Records of Portsmouth, which under the law of their publication, have come under the charge of your Library Committee.

The value of this department will soon appear in the publication by the State of the first volume of the *Records of Portsmouth, R. I.* This volume is the most ancient in date of any town records in Rhode Island, now extant. The copy was made by this Society,— a duplicate copy was presented by the Society to the Town of Portsmouth,— and the State of Rhode Island, with a hearty appreciation of its historic value, authorized the printing, under the supervision of the Society's Librarian, of an edition of 500 copies. About two-

thirds of this *Record* is already in type, and the book should be completed in the spring with a full index of its contents. The work is being carefully indexed, as it goes through the press, and duplicate copies are made of all proofs, as corrected, so that in case of accident by fire or otherwise, the work shall not be lost, or seriously delayed. As the most ancient of our town records, it cannot fail to awaken much interest among American historians.

A number of new manuscript volumes, of records, and other historical material, have been collected and bound in temporary, but serviceable covers, and so made available for ready consultation and use.

Correspondence and exchange of works has been well maintained with a large number of kindred institutions. It is a pleasure to state, that the South Carolina Historical Society is efficiently reorganizing "after war and earthquakes," and is to commence this year a quarterly publication of its own. In a state so rich in historical material, as well as in distinguished sons, the Society can hardly fail to develop a rich mine of historic wealth.

The newspaper department has received special attention during the last quarter. Several changes have been made, as it was found necessary to remove most of the duplicate volumes to the basement, in order to make room for the large number of new volumes received,— the State of Rhode Island alone sending 69 volumes. The 19 volumes of the *Manufacturers' and Farmers' Journal*, from 1851 to 1869, recently purchased by the Society, have been bound and are now upon our shelves. Before sending them to the bindery they were examined and a list of the few missing numbers was taken.

As much attention as possible has been given to the large duplicate collection in the basement. Some change also was thought desirable in the map department. All the Rhode Island maps and charts have now been brought up-stairs, and placed upon the walls of the Cabinet. A catalogue of these

has been made, showing the date of each and the name of the maker and place where each map is located, thus making them easily accessible for examination.

The numerous additions to the museum have been properly placed and labelled, and some improvement has been made in the arrangement.

The acquisition of a large letter-copying press gives new facilities for preserving in the simplest form copies of all letters of importance — the want of which has been much felt in the past. Its extra size is designed to aid the manuscript department in the better handling, pressing and preserving of ancient documents (often of large size), and which in many cases are badly folded, crumpled, creased and torn.

Annexed will be found the list of donors, both corporate and individual, to the Library and Cabinet during the past year.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM D. ELY,
HENRY R. CHACE,
Library Committee.

PROVIDENCE, Jan. 9, 1900.

INSTITUTIONS AND CORPORATIONS FROM WHICH GIFTS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED.

	Bound Vols.	Pamphlets.	Misc.
American Antiquarian Society, Worcester		3	
American Catholic Historical Society, Philadelphia		3	
American Historical Association, Washington		1	
American Jewish Historical Society, Washington		1	
American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia		2	
Amherst College		3	
Andover Theological Seminary		1	
Boston City Record Commission	1		
Boston Public Library	1	1	
Boston Weekly Transcript			1
Brown University, Providence	6	1	
California, University of, Berkeley		1	
Canadian Institute, Toronto		2	
Chicago Board of Trade	1		
Cincinnati Public Library		1	
Connecticut Historical Society, Hartford	1	2	
Connecticut Quarterly Publishing Co., Hartford	1		
Essex Institute, Salem	1	1	
Hartford Theological Seminary	1	1	
Harvard University, Cambridge	1	1	
Iowa Geological Survey, Des Moines		1	
Iowa Historical Department, Des Moines		4	
Iowa State Historical Society, Iowa City		4	
Ipswich Historical Society		1	
Kansas State Historical Society, Topeka		1	
Leland Stanford, Jr., University, Palo Alto		1	
Long Island Historical Society, Brooklyn	3	16	
Louisiana Historical Society, New Orleans		1	
Maine Historical Society, Portland		3	
Manchester Historical Association		1	
Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston	1	3	
Massachusetts Railroad Commission, Boston	1		
Massachusetts Society of Mayflower Descendants, Boston	1		
Medford Historical Society	1		
Michigan State Library, Lansing		1	
Michigan, University of, Ann Arbor		1	
Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul		2	
Montauk Club, New York		2	
Nantucket Historical Association		1	
National Association of Wool Manufactures, Boston		1	
National Red Cross Committee, New York	1		
Nebraska State Historical Society, Lincoln	1		
New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston		2	
New Jersey Historical Society, Newark		4	
New York Genealogical and Biographical Society		2	
New York Meteorological Observatory	1		
New York Public Library	1		

	Bound Vols.	Pamphlets.	Misc.
New York State Library, Albany	2	5	
Newport Mercury			1
Nova Scotia Historical Society, Halifax		1	
Ohio Archæological and Historical Society, Columbus		4	
Old Eliot Historical Society	1	8	
Old Residents' Historical Society, Lowell	1		
Old North West Genealogical Society, Columbus		3	
Ontario Historical Society, Toronto		3	
Pawtucket Gazette and Chronicle			1
Pennsylvania, Historical Society of, Philadelphia	1	4	
Pennsylvania Society of Colonial Dames, Philadelphia	1		
Philadelphia Library Company		3	
Princeton University		1	
Printers Ink Publishing Company, New York	1		
Providence Athenæum	1	1	
Providence Board of Trade	1		
Providence City Auditor	1		
Providence City Government	4	5	
Providence City Record Commissioners	1		
Providence Journal Company		4	
Providence Journal of Commerce Company	1		
Providence Public Library	1		
Quebec, Literary and Historical Society of	1		
Rhode Island College of Agriculture, Kingston		16	
Rhode Island Hospital, Providence		1	
Rhode Island Medical Society, Providence		1	
Rhode Island, Secretary of State, Providence	2	35	
Rhode Island, State Board of Health, Providence	1	1	
Royal Academy of Belles Lettres and History, Stockholm		1	
Royal Historical Society, London		1	
Royal Historical Society of Northern Antiquaries, Copenhagen,		2	
Royal University of Norway, Christiania		1	
Smithsonian Institution, Washington	3	6	
South Carolina Historical Society, Charleston	1	4	
Tennessee, University of, Knoxville		2	
Texas State Historical Association, Austin		4	
Toronto, University of		1	
Tufts College		2	
U. S. Civil Service Commission, Washington	1		
U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, Washington	1	1	
U. S. Commissioner of Education, Washington	1		
U. S. Geological Survey, Washington	8		
U. S. Interior Department, Washington	1	12	
U. S. Labor Department, Washington	2	8	
U. S. Library of Congress, Washington	1		
U. S. State Department, Washington	5	21	
U. S. Treasury Department, Washington	1		
U. S. War Department, Washington	9	1	
Vermont State Library, Montpelier	11	10	
Washington State Historical Society, Tacoma		1	
William and Mary College, Williamsburg		5	
Wisconsin State Historical Society, Madison	1	2	
Worcester Society of Antiquity		1	
Wyoming Historical Society, Wilkesbarre		1	
Yale University, New Haven		3	

PERSONS FROM WHOM GIFTS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED.

	Bound Vols.	Pamphlets.	Misc.
Adadourian, Haig, Plymouth, Mass		1	
Adams, W. F., Springfield, Mass	2	126	
Allen, Amand W., Providence, R. I	3		
Allen, Reuben L., Providence, R. I	1		
Allen, Samuel W. K., Providence, R. I		1	
Ames, Mrs. William, Providence, R. I		1	
Angell, Mrs. Charles B., Providence, R. I	2		
Arnold, Fred A., Providence, R. I		1	
Arnold, George C., Providence, R. I			1
Atkinson, Edward, Brookline, Mass	1		
Austin, John O., Providence, R. I	2	2	
Avery, Samuel P			1
Bachelor, Mrs. E. W., West Upton, Mass	1		
Bailey, W. W., Providence, R. I			1
Baker, Virginia, Warren, R. I		1	
Balch, T. W., Philadelphia	1		
Barratt, Norris S., Philadelphia, Pa		1	
Bartlett, John R., Washington, D. C		1	
Beckwith, A. C		1	
Bell, T. H., Providence, R. I			1
Bowen, Clarence W., New York, N. Y		1	
Boyle, David, Toronto, Canada		1	
Brigham, Clarence S., Providence, R. I	1		
Brown, Francis H., Boston, Mass	1		
Brymner, Douglas, Ottawa, Canada		1	
Butts, Allison, Poughkeepsie, N. Y	1		
Caldwell, Augustine, Ipswich, Mass		2	
Candage, R. C. F., Brookline, Mass		1	
Carpenter, Frank W., Providence, R. I	1		
Chace, Lewis J., Providence, R. I	1		
Chase, Martha H., Providence, R. I	1		
Clapp, Robert P., Lexington, Mass	1		
Clark, Thomas M., Providence, R. I		250	
Colwell, Francis, Providence, R. I		1	
Davis, Andrew M., Cambridge, Mass		1	
Davis, Mary E., Providence, R. I		1	
Dempsey, Henry L., Stillwater, R. I		1	14
Denison, Frederick, Providence, R. I		20	
Dexter, Christopher, Providence, R. I			1
Dodge, James H., Boston, Mass	1		
Dodge, Martha A., Billerica, Mass	10	7	1
Durfee, Charles S., Providence, R. I	6	35	
Dyer, Elisha, Providence, R. I		2	
Eaton, Amasa M., Providence, R. I		1	
Ely, William D., Providence, R. I	1	2	
Everett, Richmond P., Providence, R. I	1	10	2
Folsom, Albert A., Brookline, Mass	1		1
Gardner, Edward B., Providence, R. I			1
Goodell, Abner C., Salem, Mass		1	
Gorton, George, Providence, R. I			4
Grant, G. M., New York, N. Y			2
Gray, Charles C., Providence, R. I	1	1	
Green, Samuel A., Boston, Mass	1	60	
Green, Theodore F., Providence, R. I			28

	Bound Vols.	Pamphlets.	Misc.
Grieve, Robert, Providence, R. I		1	
Hammett, Abraham, Ipswich, Mass		1	
Harris, D. F., Adams, N. Y			1
Hart, George T., Providence, R. I		1	
Hopkins, Charles W., Providence, R. I		1	
Hoppin, William W., New York, N. Y	6	1	
Hoyt, David W., Providence, R. I	1		
Hudson, James S., Providence, R. I		2	
Jameson, J. Franklin, Providence, R. I	2	2	
Jencks, Albert V., Providence, R. I	18	36	
Jones, James C., Brooklyn, N. Y		1	
Keim, D. Randolph, Harrisburgh, Pa		1	
King, Henry M., Providence, R. I	1	1	
Larned, Charles W., West Point, N. Y	1		
Lincoln, George H., Providence, R. I			1
Littlefield, Susan E., Boston, Mass		1	
Loomis, George A., East Greenwich, R. I		1	
Mason, Charles B., Warren, R. I		5	
Matthews, Harriet L., Lynn, Mass		1	
Mosley, William H. T., Providence, R. I		2	
Newell, Timothy, Providence, R. I		8	4
Paine, George T., Providence, R. I	64		
Paul, Davis E., Providence, R. I		10	
Peck, George B., Providence, R. I	1		
Peckham, Eliza A., Providence, R. I			1
Pegram, John C., Providence, R. I			1
Perry, Mrs. Amos, Providence, R. I			2
Peters, W. R., and J. P., New York, N. Y	1		
Poland, William C., Providence, R. I		1	
Rice, Franklin P., Worcester, Mass	1		
Rose, Henry B., Providence, R. I		4	
Rowell, Benjamin W., Boston, Mass		3	
Sackett, Frederic M., Providence, R. I	1		
Sanborn, John P., Providence, R. I	1		
Shepard, Mrs. Elizabeth, Providence, R. I			1
Smiley, Albert K., Lake Mohonk, N. Y		1	
Smith, Charles H., Providence, R. I	1	2	
Snow, Sarah J., Providence, R. I	4		
Southwick, Isaac H., Providence, R. I			1
Spencer, Gideon, Providence, R. I	1		
Spencer, Mrs. Thomas, Warwick, R. I	1		
Steere, Charles L., Providence, R. I	40		
Stetson, Anna M., South Weymouth, Mass		1	
Stockwell, George A., Providence, R. I	21		
Stryker, William S., Trenton, N. J	1		
Swan, Robert T., Boston, Mass		1	
Taft, Rosina E. C., Providence, R. I		1	
Thurber, Charles H., Providence, R. I		1	
Tiepke, Henry E., Providence, R. I	1		
Tillinghast, James W., Buffalo, N. Y		1	
Tingley, Samuel H., Providence, R. I			20
Upton, George B., Milton, Mass	1		
Vernon, George W. F., Baltimore, Md	2		
Walker, Edwin S., Springfield, Ill	1	1	
Webb, Samuel H., Providence, R. I		3	
Whitten, W. F., Chariton, Iowa		1	
Williams, Zephaniah, Providence, R. I	1		

REPORT OF THE LECTURE COMMITTEE.

The Committee on Lectures respectfully report that lectures were given as follows:

1. February 7, 1899. Capt. John R. Bartlett; subject, "The Operations of the Navy Department in the War with Spain."

2. February 21, 1899. Hon. Amos Perry, LL. D.; subject, "Some Recollections of Men, Scenes and Events at Harvard University Sixty Years Ago."

3. March 7, 1899. Edward Fuller; subject, "A Defence of Charles First of England."

In beginning the new season the following circular was issued:

"PROVIDENCE, Dec. 11, 1899.

"The Rhode Island Historical Society would invite attention to a course of lectures to be given monthly, commencing December 26th and continuing on a Tuesday of each month thereafter, by the following gentlemen: Edward Everett Hale, Charles Francis Adams, Edwin D. Mead, Frederick W. Holls, Henry M. King, Lorenzo Sears.

"At this time the officers and members of the Society feel that the community at large should be earnestly solicited to interest themselves in the work of this important institution. It has many needs, such as have been satisfied by abundant gifts and generous support for institutions located in communities not so wealthy as ours.

"In enlisting the aid of these eminent lecturers the officers have intended not only to afford instruction and entertainment to the citizens of Rhode Island but to call the attention of

these citizens to the collateral work of the Society. The institution needs the hearty coöperation of the public, who are invited to attend these lectures.

WM. B. WEEDEN,
JOHN T. BLODGETT,
WM. B. MEAD,
Committee on Lectures."

December 26, 1899. Edward Everett Hale, D. D., spoke in Manning Hall; subject, "Inquiries Concerning Early Rhode Island," with illustrations by stereopticon.

January 8, 1900. Charles Francis Adams, LL. D., spoke in Sayles Memorial Hall; subject, "Civilian Treatment of Military Operations."

The audiences in both instances were large and the response from our members and the community in general was very hearty.

WM. B. WEEDEN,
For the Committee.

REPORT OF THE PUBLICATION COMMITTEE.

January 9, 1900.

To the Rhode Island Historical Society:

The Publication Committee respectfully reports that the quarterly publication of the Society has been issued during the past year in accordance with established usage. The

quarterly bills have been audited by the committee and paid by the treasurer as follows:

No. 25	$157 55
No. 26	121 50
No. 27	108 50
No. 28	99 50
	$487 05

The first two numbers were edited by the late Hon. Amos Perry, who also prepared for the press portions of the third and fourth numbers issued. The committee gratefully records its sense of the large services performed by Mr. Perry in the editing of the journal almost from the beginning, and its appreciation of the loss which the Society sustains in this, as in so many other departments of its activity. A satisfactory portrait of Mr. Perry has been printed as a frontispiece to No. 28. The greater part of Nos. 26, 27, and 28 has been occupied by the interesting Diary of Rev. Enos Hitchcock, D. D., ably edited by Mr. William B. Weeden, whose services are gratefully acknowledged.

It appears that no explicit appropriation for the committee has been made during the past two years. The committee respectfully requests that the usual sum of $550.00 be appropriated by formal vote of the Society to the uses of the committee during the present year.

It is intended to make the quarterly publication increasingly worthy of the Society's support. The printing of original documents, particularly documents chosen from among the rich stores possessed by the Society, is contemplated as the principal object to be held in view, though without absolutely excluding contributed articles. The committee sees reason to hope that, without calling upon the Society for funds beyond those ordinarily appropriated, means may be found for the publication, at no distant date, of one or two additional volumes of the Collections.

Respectfully submitted,

J. FRANKLIN JAMESON,
AMASA M. EATON.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON GENEALOGICAL RESEARCHES.

The Committee on Genealogical Researches respectfully report: that while there is growth in this department, from some occasionally added volumes, yet the needed books are still many. This is true not only in regard to the genealogies constantly being published in this country, but also as to English books of reference more and more in demand, in this era of good feeling toward the mother country. Particularly desired is a set of the Harleian Society Publications. An opportunity to procure such a set was offered a few years since, but lack of funds prevented the purchase.

Your Committee's task continues to be most largely that of suggestion as to manner of work, etc., to the many inquirers in the genealogical field. Too much emphasis cannot be laid, in this connection, upon the importance of wills for giving the needed clues in family research. It is very gratifying to learn that the Town Councils (which under our peculiar system act as courts of probate) have responded in some degree to the suggestions of the State Record Commissioner, and are putting their records into better condition by repairing, rebinding, indexing, etc. A member of this committee has recently visited the Town Clerk's office at Wickford, and found a most creditable piece of work performed there, in repairing the early wills by the Emery process, rebinding, etc., a work long sadly needed in North Kingstown. It will serve as an object lesson for other towns.

The free access to probate records enjoyed by investigators in this country, is all the more appreciated by those who have had occasion to make researches in London, where one is hampered by an expensive table of charges if copies of wills are made.

Your committee cannot, in the limits of this brief report, cover all the range of inquiry as to procedure in tracing individuals genealogically; but will say generally, that when records of births, etc., church records, gravestones, and wills, have been thoroughly gleaned, there remains what is sometimes a mine of information in deeds. Reference may properly be made here to a *Hand-book of Suggestions for Students in Genealogy*, recently published by Dr. Henry R. Stiles.

JOHN O. AUSTIN,

For the Committee.

NECROLOGY.[1]

George Washington Benjamin Bourn, the son of Francis and Nancy Bartlett Bourn, was born in Providence, May 25, 1825. He died in the same city, October 8, 1899. Most of his early life was spent in Bristol, but for many years he was engaged in the provision business in Providence with his uncle, Benjamin M. Bourn. An unassuming man, of quiet and retiring disposition, he was always ready to aid any objects that seemed to him worthy. He was a devoted member of All Saints (P. E.) Church. He became a member of the Historical Society in 1891.

Daniel Garrison Brinton was born at Thornbury, Chester County, Penn., May 13, 1837, the son of Lewis and Ann Carey (Garrison) Brinton. He was graduated from Yale College in 1858, and two years later received the degree of M. D. from Jefferson College. He enlisted in the hospital service at the beginning of the Civil War, at the close of which he was brevetted lieutenant-colonel and discharged. In 1867 he became assistant editor of the *Medical and Surgical Reporter*, and in 1874, editor, which latter position he filled until 1887. He was appointed professor of ethnology at the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, in 1884, and in 1886 professor of American linguistics and archaeology in the University of Pennsylvania.

He was a frequent contributor to various medical and scientific journals, and wrote and edited many works on linguistics,

[1] These notices have been prepared by Professor W. H. Munro and Mr. C. S. Brigham, members of the Committee on Necrology.

archaeology, ethnography, and other sciences. He was president of the Folk-Lore Society, of the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Philadelphia, and of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and also a member of many scientific organizations throughout the world. He was elected a corresponding member of this society in 1870.

On September 28, 1865, he married Sarah M., daughter of Robert Tillson, of Quincy, Ill., and had two children. He died at Atlantic City, N. J., July 31, 1899.

Jonathan Russell Bullock (born in Bristol, R. I., September 6, 1815, died in Bristol, May 7, 1899,) was the son of Nathaniel and Ruth (Smith) Bullock. He was sixth in descent from Richard Bullock, one of the men who founded the town of Rehoboth, Mass., in 1644, and was fifth in descent from Richard and Joyce (Standish) Smith, who came to America in the ship *Blessing*, and were numbered among the first settlers of Bristol in 1680. He was also descended from Nathaniel Bosworth, another of the first settlers of Bristol, who was the first deacon of the Congregational Church in that town. Nathaniel Bullock, his father, graduated from Brown University in 1798, and was Lieutenant-Governor of Rhode Island in 1842–43. J. Russell Bullock graduated from Brown University in the class of 1834, studied law in the office of his father and was admitted to the bar in 1836. Shortly after he removed to Alton, Illinois, where he remained until 1843. In Alton he was for a time a member of the Common Council. On his return to Rhode Island he was chosen to represent his native town in the General Assembly of the state until he declined a re-election because he had become the counsel for the town in a boundary question then under discussion in the Legislature. He was Collector of Customs in Bristol from 1849 to 1853, was State Senator in 1859, and Lieutenant-Governor in 1860. In 1862 he was elected Associate Justice of the Rhode

Island Supreme Court. This office he resigned in 1864, having been appointed United States District Judge by President Lincoln. He resigned the United States judgeship in 1869. During the last years of his life he became deeply interested in genealogical studies. He was always well versed in Rhode Island history, especially the history of his native town. On all matters relating to Bristol highways he was an authority. He was twice married. His first wife was Susan A. DeWolf, the daughter of John and Sylvia (Griswold) DeWolf. She died in 1866. His second wife was Emma Westcott, daughter of Stephen and Mary Smith Westcott, of West Roxbury, Mass., who survives him. His surviving children are Mrs. Ostrander, of New York, and Mrs. S. P. Colt, of Bristol, the daughters of his first wife, and Mrs. A. S. Chesebro. He became a member of this society in 1884.

Albert L. Calder was born in Providence, September 6, 1825. He died in this city May 24, 1899. He was the son of William and Eliza (Spencer) Calder. When seventeen years of age he entered the employ of Joseph Balch, the druggist, and remained with him for about seven years. After a few years spent in drug stores in Boston and Lowell he returned to Providence, and in company with his brother, George B. Calder, opened an apothecary's store on Westminster Street. This store was burned to the ground in 1853, whereupon Mr. Calder erected near the site of the old store a new building, which he continued to occupy until his retirement from the retail business in 1885. It is said that when he sold out he was the oldest merchant on Westminster Street. After his retirement from the retail field he gave his time to the manufacture of Calder's Dentine, an article which, like another Providence production, Perry Davis's Pain-Killer, is to be found in every apothecary's store in the country. Mr. Calder served for eight years in the Common Council

of Providence. He represented the city in the Legislature in 1891–92. Always an active Republican, he was especially prominent in city politics during the Civil War. He was connected as a director with many corporations, was a trustee of the Rhode Island Hospital and vice-president of the Industrial Trust Co. He was twice married, first to Martha Ann Howland, of Barre, Mass. Her four children, Mrs. R. A. Robertson, Mrs. John G. Aldrich, Dr. Augustus W. Calder and Charles A. Calder, are still living. In 1892 he married Mrs. Ellen O'Connor, of Washington, D. C., who survives him. He became a member of the Historical Society in 1891.

Horatio Nelson Campbell was born at Voluntown, Conn., March 13, 1815, and died at his residence at Providence, April 10, 1899. He was the eldest of nine children of Winthrop and Susan Dorrance (Gordon) Campbell, and was a descendant in the sixth generation from Robert Campbell, who emigrated from Scotland and settled in New London, Conn., in 1719. He received his education in the public schools of his native town, and later in an academy. After a short employment as a clerk in Plainfield, Conn., he removed in 1835 to Westerly, R. I., where he entered the store of Rowse Babcock, who was engaged in the manufacturing business. In 1840, he was taken into partnership, and the firm became known as H. N. Campbell and Co. Mr. Campbell then branched out into manufacturing interests, dealing extensively in cotton and wool. In 1854, when the Niantic, now the National Bank, was organized, he was elected to the presidency of the institution. He removed with his family to Providence in 1873, his son Horatio N. Campbell, Jr., becoming his partner in the wholesale wool trade.

On September 8, 1846, he married Harriet Babcock, the daughter of Rowse and Hannah (Brown) Babcock. A son Horatio, and a daughter Harriet survive him. He became a member of this Society in 1876.

Reuben Aldridge Guild was born in Dedham, Mass., May 4, 1822; he died in Providence, May 13, 1899. He was the son of Reuben and Olive (Morse) Guild and was descended from that John Guild who came to America in 1636. His ancestors rendered distinguished service to the state in the Indian and Revolutionary wars, his great grandfather, Major Aaron Guild, being the soldier from whom he claimed membership in the Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Mr. Guild prepared for college in the academies at Wrentham and Worcester, Mass., and entered Brown University in the class of 1847. Immediately after his graduation he was made Assistant Librarian of the University, and in 1848 became Librarian. In 1893, having resigned his position, he was made Librarian Emeritus. Probably no man was better known to the alumni of Brown University than he, and there is no man whose presence on Commencement Day will be more deeply missed. He knew the University and its graduates better than most men ever know their Alma Mater. To the Librarian's office the feet of returning alumni constantly turned during all the forty-six years that he was connected with it. Except in the year 1877, when he visited the Librarians' Conference in London, he was almost continually on duty. For twelve years he was Secretary of the Brown University Alumni Association. His character was admirably shown when in 1878 he carried the first book from the old Library room in Manning Hall to the magnificent new Library building. This book, "the book of books, the embodiment of true wisdom and the fountain head of real culture, civilization and moral improvement," was Bagster's Polyglot Bible.

As a Librarian his influence was felt outside the walls of the University. He was instrumental in arranging the first Librarians' Convention in this country. This met in New York in 1853. In 1871–72 he was secretary of the committee formed to take measures for the establishment of the Providence Public Library.

As a citizen he served his city with the same fidélity he brought to his work in the University. Seven years he was a member of the Common Council. Fifteen years he served upon the School Committee. During the Civil War he was Chairman of the Relief Committee of the City of Providence, a committee charged with the disbursement of about $400,000. In the councils of the church of which he was a member he was always prominent. Seventeen years he was an officer of the R. I. Baptist Sunday School Convention. For five years he was Secretary of the R. I. Baptist Education Society. He was a member of the American Antiquarian Society, of the Old Colony Historical Society, of the Library Association of the United Kingdom, of the Essex Institute (honorary), and of many other historical associations. He was an unusually prolific writer. The list of his writings covers almost a page in the *Historical Catalogue of Brown University.* Among his principal works were: *Manning and Brown University*, 1864; *History of Brown University*, 1867; *Chaplain Smith and the Baptists*, 1885; *Brown University and Manning*, 1897, and many pamphlets concerning Roger Williams. In 1874 he received the degree of LL. D. from Shurtleff College. He married, December 17, 1849, Jane Clifford Hunt. Mrs. Guild and four children, Jenny Clifford, wife of George H. Coffin (B. V. 1874), Georgiana, Olive Lincoln, and R. Lawrence Guild, survive him. He became a member of the Society in 1887.

Henry Atkins Hidden was born in Providence, December 10, 1816; he died in Providence, August 7, 1899. He was the son of James and Mary W. (Clifford) Hidden, and was a descendant, in the sixth generation, of Roger Williams. His education was received at private schools in Providence and at an academy in Leicester, Mass. When twenty-one years of age he began business as an engraver and copper-plate printer in company with his half-brother, Gen. Thomas F. Carpenter. The firm's name was H. A.

Hidden and Co., and the business it carried on was very extensive. Those were the days of state banks, and a large part of the notes of those banks was printed by this company. The firm also engraved the diplomas of Brown University. The engraving business was carried on until 1860. About that time Mr. Hidden engaged in business as a private banker. He was also a large dealer in cotton goods, and rapidly accumulated a large fortune. Although averse to political life, Mr. Hidden was for two years a Representative of his native city in the General Assembly of Rhode Island, and was also for two years an Alderman. He was a director in many important corporations, and was President of the What Cheer Bank. He married in 1839 Abby A., daughter of Wilkins and Abby (Watson) Updike. His three sons, Charles Henry, Wilkins Updike and Walter Hidden, survive him. He became a member of the Historical Society in 1873.

James Madison Kimball was born in Smithfield, R. I., May 2, 1814, and died in Providence, April 13, 1899. He was the son of Paul Tew and Lilles Warner Kimball, and a descendant in the seventh generation from Richard Kimball who came over in the *Elizabeth* in 1634. Upon completing his public-school education he immediately entered upon business life, engaging in the manufacturing of cotton at Fall River, Mass., Kirkland, N. Y., and also in the South. In 1860 he removed to Providence, and established the firm of J. M. Kimball and Sons, commission dealers in cotton. He retired from active business life in 1880. He was a careful and prudent business man, and was a director of the Merchants' Mutual and Blackstone Mutual Fire Insurance Companies, of the Franklin Savings Bank, and of the Industrial Trust and R. I. Safe Deposit Companies, and at the time of his death was president of the Second National Bank, having served in that capacity for twenty-five years. He was also a member of the Congregational Club.

On August 4, 1835, he married Caroline Maria Benedict, daughter of Uriah Benedict, of Pawtucket. As a result of

this union there were born five children, two of whom, James Clinton Kimball and William B. Kimball, are still living and carry on the firm founded by their father. He married secondly, February 17, 1848, Cornelia Walcott, the daughter of Otis Walcott, of Smithfield, R. I. He joined this Society in 1876.

Mary Howland Everett Knowles was born in Providence, July 31, 1814; died March 8, 1899. She was the widow of Hon. John P. Knowles, (Brown University 1836, Judge of the United States District Court 1869–1881), an early secretary of the Rhode Island Historical Society, and was the daughter of Amherst Everett, who was for many years a member of the Society. Her grandfather, John Howland, a descendant of John Howland, the Pilgrim, was for several years the President of the Society. Mrs. Knowles took great interest in historical matters. She was also interested in many charitable societies of Providence, and was always ready by word and deed to help the unfortunate. She became a life member of this Society in 1890.

Amos Perry was born in South Natick, Mass., August 12, 1812; he died in New London, Conn., (while making an historical pilgrimage) August 10, 1899. He was the son of Elijah and Mary (Jones) Perry, and was sixth in descent from John Perry, who settled in Roxbury in 1632. Many of his ancestors did valiant service in the Indian and Revolutionary wars. He graduated from Harvard University in 1837, and very shortly afterward opened a classical school at Fruit Hill, R. I. From that school he passed to the principalship of the Summer Street Grammar School in Providence, and later became principal of a high school for young women. For a time also he was master of a young ladies' school in New London, Conn. He was always exceedingly interested in educational matters. For several years he was a member of the Providence School Committee. He was also one of the founders of the R. I. Institute of Instruction.

In 1862 he was made Diplomatic and Consular Agent of the United States at Tunis, and remained in office until 1867. When in 1865 a Tunisian embassy visited America bearing from the Dey a letter of condolence upon the death of President Lincoln, Mr. Perry accompanied the embassy in its travels throughout the country. In 1885 he was made Superintendent of the State Census. In his report may be found historical accounts of unusual value, such as are not often found in census compendiums. On his return from Tunis he published a volume, *Carthage and Tunis*, which contains the results of his researches and observations during his official term. He also published some minor articles on the same subject. He was a corresponding member of the Massachusetts Historical Society, and was a member of many other historical associations. In 1841 Brown University conferred upon him the degree of Master of Arts, and in 1888 Griswold College, Iowa, made him a Doctor of Laws.

In 1873 he was chosen Secretary of the R. I. Historical Society, and from that time until his death his forceful personality dominated the Society. In 1880 he became its Librarian. Perhaps no man will be able to accomplish as much for the Society as he brought about. The minute in which the Society expressed its appreciation of his services may be found on page 5 of the present number of this quarterly. A portrait faces p. 207 of Vol. VII. Mr. Perry married in 1838 Elizabeth A. Phetteplace of Gloucester, Mass., who with her daughter, Mrs. Helen E. P. Kendall, widow of J. Enfield Kendall, survives him. He became a member of the Society in 1858, a life member in 1866.

Lucian Sharpe was born in Providence, March 30, 1830. He died at sea on the North German Lloyd steamship *Saale*, October 17, 1892. He was the son of Wilkes and Sally A. Chaffee Sharpe. Most of his education was obtained in the schools of Providence. Very early he devoted himself to mechanics. After an apprenticeship of five years as a

machinist with Joseph R. Brown, he formed with him a partnership in 1853, under the name of J. R. Brown and Sharpe. Hardly more than a dozen men were employed by the firm when it began business, and its modest shop covered less than 2,000 square feet. At Mr. Sharpe's death his company had 1,500 men on its pay-roll, and its shops covered 283,000 square feet. Perhaps no industrial establishment in America is better known in foreign lands than the Brown and Sharpe Manufacturing Co. Mr. Sharpe's business talent, devoted for almost half a century to the interests of this firm, made it what it was at his death. He aimed at "absolute accuracy" in his work, and an accuracy that is marvellous is the characteristic of the machines produced by this company. Mr. Sharpe realized that a permanent force of skilled and intelligent workmen was not less necessary to the success of a great workshop than machines that were perfect in all their details. For the benefit of his employees he established an unusually well selected library. He also made provision for lectures for the special benefit of the apprentices. His business ability was recognized by many important corporations. He was a trustee of the Providence Institution for Savings, and a director of the Wilcox and Gibbs Sewing Machine Co., of New York, of the National Bank of North America, of the Providence Gas Co., of the Rhode Island Hospital Trust Co., and of the Union Railroad Co. of Providence. Of the latter company he was at one time vice-president. He was also president of the Providence Journal Co. Mr. Sharpe was a devoted friend and benefactor of Brown University. From this institution his two sons graduated. In 1892 the University gave him the honorary degree of Master of Arts, an honor it had never more worthily bestowed.

He married in June, 1857, Louisa Dexter, the daughter of Lewis Dexter, of Smithfield. Mrs. Sharpe and her six children survive him. The children are Mary Dexter, wife of Zechariah Chafee of Providence, Ellen Dexter, Amey Dexter, wife

of W. Y. Peters of Boston, Louisa Dexter, Lucian Sharpe, Jr., and Henry Dexter Sharpe. He became a life member of this Society in 1890.

Horatio Nelson Slater was born in Providence, March 20, 1835, and died at his summer home at Magnolia, Mass., August 12, 1899. He was the son of John Slater and Sarah Jencks (Tiffany) Slater, and the grandson of Samuel Slater, "Father of American cotton manufactures." He was graduated from Brown University in 1854, and later studied law at Harvard. On the death of his uncle, Samuel Slater, he became sole proprietor of four large mills, three in Webster, and one in Wilkinsonville. He employed some 2,500 hands, and nearly a quarter of Webster's population were in his factories. He was actively identified in railway affairs, and owned the Webster branch of the Boston and Albany Railroad.

He was twice married, first to Elizabeth Vinton, the daughter of Amos M. Vinton of Providence, whose surviving children are Samuel Slater of Boston, and Caroline Slater the wife of Charles G. Washburn, of Worcester. Mrs. Slater died in 1880, and in 1891 he married Mabel Hunt, daughter of William Morris Hunt, the artist. Four children were the result of this union, Esther, Horatio Nelson, Mabel, and William Morris Hunt Slater, all of whom survive him.

He served as a trustee of his Alma Mater from 1876 to 1890. He became a member of this Society in 1877. From the date of his election, he always showed a keen interest in its welfare, and when the new addition to the Cabinet was erected in 1891, he cheerfully bore a share of the expense.

Edward Padelford Taft was born in Providence in the old Taft homestead on the corner of Westminster and Jackson streets, February 16, 1835, and died in this city, November 5, 1899. He was the son of Orray and Deborah (Keith) Taft, being a descendant from Robert Taft of Mendon,

through his son Robert, Jr. He received his early schooling in the old University Grammar School, and was graduated from Brown University in 1854. After a year's travel in Europe, he entered his father's office, becoming a member of the firm in 1858. On the death of his father in 1865, he assumed the active management of the company. Two years later he purchased mill privileges at Taftville, Conn., four miles above Norwich, and started the erection of the Ponemah Mills. This firm, of which he was treasurer since its foundation, ranks among the first of cotton manufactories in New England.

On June 17, 1858, he married Eliza F. Williams, daughter of Edward S. and Susan T. Williams, who survives him together with eight children: Orray, Emma A., Robert R., Harrison S., Foster W., Eliza F. W., Franklin K., and Edward Padelford, Jr.

Mr. Taft was a director of the Providence and Stonington Steamship Company, and also of several insurance companies. He was a member of the New England Cotton Manufacturers' Association, and of the Providence Board of Trade. He joined the Historical Society in 1896.

Edward Thayer, the fifth child of Alanson and Perley Thayer, died in Providence, February 13, 1899. He was born March 23, 1843, in Pawtucket, then a part of Massachusetts, and was educated in the public schools of that town. When the call came for volunteers in 1862, he enlisted for three months' service in the Ninth R. I. Volunteers, serving as fourth corporal of Company H. After a short apprenticeship in several manufacturing concerns, in 1867 he went into partnership with his father, under the firm name of the Lebanon Mill Company. Upon his father's retirement two years later he conducted business alone, but in after years was assisted by his two sons, S. Willard and Alanson.

Mr. Thayer was prominent in political affairs, representing Pawtucket in the General Assembly from 1894 to 1899. He

was for many years a member of the Pawtucket Republican Committee, served in the town council for three years, was a member of the Board of License Commissioners, and in 1892 was elected a delegate to the National Republican Convention. He belonged to many clubs and societies, and was a member of the Masonic Order. He joined the Historical Society in 1897.

On May 1, 1865, he was married to Emma L., daughter of Simon W. Dexter of Pawtucket. His wife and six children survive him: S. Willard, Alanson, Amey J., Florence, Edward and Emma D. Thayer.

Zephaniah Williams was born at Pomfret, Conn., February 20, 1835, and died in Providence May 16, 1899. He was the son of Giles Williams and Fanny Maria (Gallup) Williams. His paternal grandparents were Zephaniah Williams and Olive Howe, and on the maternal side, Lodowick Gallup and Margaret Phelps. He went to the common school in Pomfret until 1845, when his father moved to Worcester, Mass. His education having been completed in the Worcester schools, he came to Providence August 5, 1857, entering the employ of Day and Sprague, grain dealers. In 1859 he entered the employ of the Commercial Steamboat Company, which later was merged into the Neptune Line. When the Neptune Line was changed to the Providence and Stonington Steamship Company, Mr. Williams was made agent, which position he filled up to the time of his illness — a period of nearly forty years.

On November 24, 1864, he married Minerva Victoria Park, the daughter of Appleton and Susan (West) Park of Pawtucket. His widow and three children, Appleton Park, Frank E., and Florence M., survive him.

He was a man prominent in the religious life of his city, being a member of the Congregational Club, and of the Young Men's Christian Association. He also belonged to the Franklin Lyceum and to the Providence Board of Trade.

Since the date of his election to this Society in 1881, he always manifested an interest in its objects, and made occasional contributions that it might realize its aims.

Marshall Woods, the only son of Dr. Alva Woods and Almira Marshall Woods, was born in Providence, November 28, 1824, and died in London, July 13, 1899. He was graduated from Brown University, receiving the degree of A. B. in 1845, and that of A. M. three years later. Although he obtained the degree of M. D. from the University of the City of New York in 1848, he never practised medicine to any extent, but gave most of his time to congenial studies and pursuits. In 1855 he was sent as a Commissioner to the Paris Exposition, serving as a member of the jury on fine arts, and at its close he was decorated with the Cross of the French Legion of Honor.

On July 12, 1848, he was married to Anne Brown Francis, the daughter of Hon. John Brown Francis. Two children were the result of this union — Abby Francis Woods, who married S. A. B. Abbott of Boston, and died some five years ago, and John Carter Brown Woods of this city.

Mr. Woods always took great interest in his first Alma Mater, being elected a trustee in 1856, and serving as treasurer from 1866 to 1882. It was during this latter connection with Brown University, that he prepared the first printed Treasurer's Reports, from 1867 to 1882, and in 1871 he published the *List of Subscriptions and Donations made to Brown University during the twenty-five years terminating June 29, 1871.*

Although he always refused public office, he was very prominent in the city where he lived. In addition to other positions of trust, he was a fellow of the Rhode Island Medical Society, a director in the Providence National Bank, and also a member of the Hope Club and the Providence Art Club. He joined this Society in 1876.

LIST OF MEMBERS — JANUARY, 1900.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

ELECTED.		RESIDENCE AT TIME OF ELECTION.
1868.	William Leete Stone,	Mt. Vernon, N. Y.
1868.	George Hannah,	352 W. 28th St., N. Y.
1870.	Charles Patrick Daly,	New York.
1880.	Carl Schurz,	Washington, D. C.
1888.	James Burrill Angell,	Ann Arbor, Mich.
1895.	Charles Francis Adams,	Boston.
1897.	Douglas Brymner,	Ottawa, Canada.
1898.	James Phinney Baxter,	Portland, Me.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

ELECTED.		RESIDENCE AT TIME OF ELECTION.
1838.	Henry Barnard,	Hartford, Conn.
1858.	John Ward Dean,	Boston.
1859.	Samuel Coffin Eastman,	Concord, N. H.
1867.	Samuel Abbott Green,	Boston.
1867.	Frederick Augustus Holden,	Washington, D. C.
1868.	James Shrigley,	Philadelphia.
1869.	Ainsworth Rand Spofford,	Washington, D. C.
1869.	Charles Jeremiah Hoadley,	Hartford, Conn.
1869.	J. Watts De Peyster,	New York.
1869.	Elbridge Henry Goss,	Melrose, Mass.
1869.	William Phineas Upham,	Salem, Mass.
1870.	Samuel Arnold Briggs,	Chicago, Ill.
1870.	Charles Myrick Thurston,	New Rochelle, N. Y.
1872.	Richard Eddy,	Gloucester, Mass.
1873.	William Cothran,	Woodbury, Conn.
1873.	Frederic Denison,	Mystic, Conn.
1873.	Edmund Farwell Slafter,	Boston.
1873.	Benjamin Franklin De Costa,	New York.

ELECTED.		RESIDENCE AT TIME OF ELECTION.
1873.	Albert Harrison Hoyt,	Cincinnati, Ohio.
1873.	J. C. Holst,	Christiania, Norway.
1873.	J. G. Bowles,	Quebec, Canada.
1874.	William Whitwell Greenough,	Boston.
1875.	Percy Daniels,	Worcester, Mass.
1875.	Thomas Fisk Rowland,	Brooklyn, N. Y.
1875.	C. Mason Kinnie,	San Francisco, Cal.
1876.	John Summerfield Brayton,	Fall River, Mass.
1877.	Richard Anson Wheeler,	Stonington, Conn.
1877.	Elmer Hewitt Capen,	Somerville, Mass.
1878.	Asa Bird Gardiner,	West Point, N. Y.
1878.	Robert Alonzo Brock,	Richmond, Va.
1878.	John Austin Stevens,	New York.
1878.	Hiram Augustus Huse,	Montpelier, Vt.
1878.	Heussein Tevfik,	Constantinople.
1878.	Edward Floyd DeLancey,	New York.
1879.	Thomas Wentworth Higginson,	Cambridge, Mass.
1879.	Ray Greene Huling,	Fitchburg, Mass.
1879.	Edward Mavier de Montjau,	Paris, France.
1880.	Moses Coit Tyler,	Ann Arbor, Mich.
1880.	James Grant Wilson,	New York.
1880.	Alfred T. Turner,	Boston.
1880.	James Mason Hoppin,	New Haven, Conn.
1880.	Thomas Williams Bicknell,	Boston.
1882.	Carlton Albert Staples,	Lexington, Mass.
1882.	Wilfred Harold Munro,	Suspension Bridge, N. Y.
1882.	Leander Cornelius Manchester,	Lowell, Mass.
1882.	Charles Hyde Denison,	San Francisco, Cal.
1882.	Charles Henry Hart,	Philadelphia.
1882.	Frederick Clifton Peirce,	Rockford, Ill.
1883.	Stephen Denison Peet,	Chicago.
1884.	Abner Cheney Goodell, Jr.,	Salem, Mass.
1884.	Adolphus Skinner Hubbard,	San Francisco, Cal.
1885.	Franklin Bowditch Dexter,	New Haven, Conn.
1885.	Peter Butler Olney,	New York.
1885.	Richard Olney,	Boston.
1885.	William Augustus Mowry,	Boston.
1885.	Albert Alonzo Folsom,	Boston.
1885.	Samuel Briggs,	Cleveland, Ohio.
1886.	Ebenezer Weaver Peirce,	Freetown, Mass.
1886.	John Russell Bartlett,	Washington, D. C.
1887.	Eaton Whiting Maxcy,	Troy, N. Y.
1887.	John Winslow,	Brooklyn, N. Y.
1887.	George Alfred Raikes,	London, England.

ELECTED.		RESIDENCE AT TIME OF ELECTION.
1888.	Samuel Smith Purple,	New York.
1888.	Edwards Amasa Park,	Andover, Mass.
1888.	Abby Isabel (Brown) Bulkley,	Brooklyn, N. Y.
1889.	William Henry Watson,	Utica, N. Y.
1890.	Franklin Pierce Rice,	Worcester, Mass.
1890.	William Harden,	Savannah, Ga.
1891.	Henry Fitz Gilbert Waters,	Salem, Mass.
1891.	William Warner Hoppin,	New York.
1891.	Isaac Pitman Noyes,	Washington, D. C.
1892.	Henry Herbert Edes,	Charlestown, Mass.
1893.	Clarence Winthrop Bowen,	New York.
1893.	Alfred Manchester,	Salem, Mass.
1894.	Laura G. Sanford,	Erie, Penn.
1894.	Charles Phelps Noyes,	St. Paul, Minn.
1895.	Oscar Solomon Straus,	New York.
1895.	Stanislaus Murray Hamilton,	Washington, D. C.
1895.	David Fisher,	Kalamazoo, Mich.
1897.	William Ashmead Courtenay,	Charleston, S. C.
1897.	Ellen D. Larned,	Thompson, Conn.
1898.	Henry Sweetser Burrage,	Portland, Me.
1898.	George Henry Greene,	Lansing, Mich.
1899.	William Copley Winslow,	Boston.

LIFE MEMBERS.

ACTIVE.	LIFE.		
1867.	1872.	George Taylor Paine,	Providence.
	1872.	Holden Borden Bowen,	Providence.
	1872.	Amasa Mason Eaton,	Providence.
	1873.	Jarvis Bowen Swan,	Providence.
	1876.	William Ely,	Providence.
	1877.	Hezekiah Conant,	Pawtucket.
1873.	1884.	Henry G. Russell,	Providence.
	1885.	John Nicholas Brown,	Newport.
	1885.	George Peabody Wetmore,	Newport.
	1885.	Harold Brown,	Newport.
	1886.	John W. Danielson,	Providence.
	1889.	Charles Fletcher,	Providence.
	1890.	Joseph Davol,	Providence.
	1890.	Walter Callender,	Providence.
	1890.	Arnold Green,	Providence.

ACTIVE.	LIFE.		
1881.	1892.	John Osborne Austin,	Providence.
1858.	1892.	Richmond Pearl Everett,	Providence.
1885.	1892.	George Gordon King,	Newport.
	1892.	Belinda Olney Wilbour,	Bristol.
	1894.	William Butler Duncan,	New York.
1882.	1894.	Charles Henry Smith,	Providence.
1866.	1894.	Horatio Rogers,	Providence.
1891.	1894.	Elizabeth Caroline Hill,	Providence.
	1894.	Caroline Hazard,	Peace Dale.
	1895.	Hattie Budlong Chaffee,	Providence.
	1895.	Esek Arnold Jillson,	Providence.
	1895.	Robert Rodman,	N. Kingstown.
	1896.	Charles Phelps Noyes,	St. Paul, Minn.
1875.	1896.	William Ames,	Providence.
1889.	1896.	Hunter Carson White,	Providence.
1873.	1896.	Charles Hart,	Providence.
	1896.	Benjamin Franklin Stevens,	Boston.
	1897.	Elizabeth Francis,	Warwick.
	1897.	Sally Francis,	Warwick.
1850.	1897.	William Goddard,	Providence.
	1899.	William Watts Sherman,	New York.
	1900.	Mary Alice Keach,	Providence.

ACTIVE MEMBERS.

ELECTED.		ELECTED.	
1895.	Adams, John Francis	1893.	Backus, Thomas
1897.	Adams, Stephen Ludlow	1881.	Baker, David Sherman
1897.	Addeman, Joshua Melancthon	1898.	Baker, William Cotter
1874.	Aldrich, Nelson Wilmarth	1895.	Ballou, Hosea Starr
1890.	Allen, Candace	1890.	Ballou, William Herbert
1876.	Angell, Edwin Gorham	1891.	Barker, Frederick Augustus
1897.	Angell, John Wilmarth	1890.	Barker, Henry Rodman
1893.	Angell, Walter Foster	1872.	Barrows, Edwin
1897.	Anthony, Edwin Perkins	1886.	Barstow, Amos Chaffee
1880.	Anthony, John Brayton	1890.	Barstow, George E.
1894.	Arnold, Fred Augustus	1888.	Bartlett, John Russell
1889.	Arnold, Frederick William	1879.	Barton, William Turner
1889.	Arnold, Newton Darling	1899.	Bates, Frank Greene
1874.	Arnold, Olney	1883.	Bates, Isaac Comstock
1877.	Arnold, Stephen Harris	1894.	Bates, William Lincoln
1890.	Atwood, Charles H.	1898.	Beach, Charles Horace

ELECTED.

1894. Bicknell, Thomas Williams
1858. Binney, William
1898. Bixby, Moses Homan
1890. Blodgett, John Taggard
1894. Bourn, Augustus Osborne
1898. Bowen, Charles William
1899. Brigham, Clarence Saunders
1893. Briggs, Benjamin Franklin
1894. Brown, Albert Waterman
1883. Brown, Daniel Russell
1883. Brown, H. Martin
1893. Brown, Pardon Fenner
1899. Brown, Robert Perkins
1898. Browne, Keyes Danforth
1896. Budlong, Joseph Albert
1876. Bugbee, James H.
1896. Bullock, Emma Westcott
1884. Burdick, James
1859. Calder, George Beckford
1894. Campbell, John Park
1898. Carpenter, Alva Edwin
1874. Carpenter, Francis Wood
1897. Carrington, Edward
1897. Carroll, Hugh Joseph
1889. Catlin, Charles Albert
1894. Chace, Henry Richmond
1888. Chace, James Hervey
1880. Chace, Jonathan
1880. Chace, Julian A.
1879. Chace, Lewis Jenkins
1892. Chace, Lucretia Gifford
1868. Chace, Thomas Wilson
1857. Chambers, Robert Babcock
1884. Chapin, Charles Value
1892. Chapin, William Waterman
1883. Child, Charles Henry
1887. Claflin, Arthur Whitman
1895. Clark, Harry Clinton
1878. Clark, Thomas March
1897. Clarke, Jennie Miles
1880. Coats, James
1897. Cole, Isaac Saunders
1885. Collins, George Lewis
1892. Colwell, Francis

ELECTED.

1890. Comstock, Louis Hall
1886. Comstock, Richard W.
1891. Conant, Samuel Morris
1872. Congdon, Johns Hopkins
1898. Cranston, Francis Augustus
1881. Cranston, James Edward
1894. Cressy, Oliver Sawyer
1891. Crins, William Henry
1876. Cushman, Henry Irving
1896. Darling, Charles Parker
1886. Dart, Edward Merrill
1891. Davis, Henry Richard
1894. Davis, John William
1887. Day, Albert Clifford
1894. Day, Frank Leslie
1894. Day, Henry Gould
1896. Dempsey, Henry Lester
1886. Dews, Joseph
1899. Dodge, Martha Ann
1877. Dorrance, Samuel Richmond
1888. Douglas, Samuel Tobey
1882. Douglas, William Wilberforce
1900. Dowling, Austin
1897. Dubois, Edward Church
1875. Dunnell, William Wanton
1877. Durfee, Charles Samuel
1849. Durfee, Thomas
1899. Dyer, Adeline M.
1890. Dyer, Elisha
1873. Eames, Benjamin Tucker
1897. Earle, Joseph Ormsbee
1856. Ely, James Winchell Coleman
1862. Ely, William Davis
1892. Farnsworth, John Prescott
1900. Faunce, William H. P.
1891. Field, Edward
1890. Fiske, George McClellan
1885. FitzGerald, Osmon Edward
1893. Flint, Susan Amelia
1891. Foster, John
1888. Foster, Samuel
1881. Foster, William Eaton
1892. Fredericks, William Henry
1897. Freeman, Joseph Wood

ELECTED.

1899. Fretwell, John P.
1898. Frost, George Frederick
1855. Gammell, Asa Messer
1875. Gammell, Robert Ives
1884. Gammell, William
1891. Gardner, Clarence Tripp
1889. Gardner, Henry Brayton
1889. Gardner, Rathbone
1891. Gifford, Robert Post
1894. Goddard, Elizabeth Cass
1881. Goddard, Moses Brown Ives
1880. Goddard, Robert Hale Ives
1895. Goff, Isaac Lewis
1883. Goodwin, Daniel
1891. Granger, Daniel Larned Davis
1893. Granger, William Smith
1875. Grant, Henry Townsend
1891. Grant, Henry Tyler, Jr.
1897. Green, Theodore Francis
1893. Greene, Charles William
1893. Greene, Edward Aborn
1876. Greene, Henry Lehre
1896. Greene, Isaac Chase
1877. Greene, William Maxwell
1895. Greene, William Ray
1899. Greenwood, Harriet Webb
1896. Grieve, Robert
1899. Griffin, Thomas I.
1892. Gross, John Mason
1872. Grosvenor, William
1890. Hall, Emily A.
1878. Hall, Robert
1897. Hallett, William Bartholomew Von Weigher
1878. Harkness, Albert
1874. Harrington, Henry Augustus
1898. Harris, Walter Douglas
1895. Harrison, Joseph LeRoy
1883. Harson, Michael Joseph
1889. Hart, George Thomas
1888. Hazard, Rowland Gibson
1881. Hersey, George Dallas
1892. Hopkins, Charles Wyman
1871. Hoppin, Frederick Street

ELECTED.

1897. Hoppin, William Anthony
1897. Howard, Henry
1890. Howard, Hiram
1891. Howe, Marc Antony DeWolf
1885. Howland, Richard Smith
1898. Hoxie, Frederick Jerome
1882. Hoyt, David Webster
1889. Hudson, James Smith
1900. Hunt, Isaac L.
1896. Huntsman, John Fletcher
1896. Isham, Norman Morrison
1882. Jackson, William Francis Bennett
1888. Jameson, John Franklin
1867. Jencks, Albert Varnum
1898. Jenckes, John
1898. Jenckes, Theodore C. M.
1897. Jenks, Henry Francis
1897. Jephson, George A.
1900. Jillson, Francello George
1880. Jones, Augustine
1889. Kelly, John Balch
1880. Kenyon, James Stanton
1892. Kimball, Horace Arnold
1900. Kimball, Gertrude Selwyn
1892. King, Henry Melville
1884. King, William Dehon
1897. Knight, Amelia Sumner
1879. Knight, Edward Balch
1894. Koopman, Harry Lyman
1899. Lamont, Hammond
1890. Leete, George Farmer
1898. Leonard, Charles Henry
1897. Leonard, William Arthur
1895. Lillibridge, Byron Jesse
1892. Lincoln, Ferdinand A.
1894. Lingane, David Francis
1878. Lippitt, Charles Warren
1898. Littlefield, Nathan Whitman
1891. Lord, Augustus Mendon
1892. Mason, A. Livingston
1877. Mason, Earl Philip
1892. Mason, Edith Bucklin Hartshorn

ELECTED.	
1877.	Mason, Eugene Waterman
1896.	Mason, Fletcher Stone
1877.	Mason, John Hale
1899.	Mathewson, Frank Convers
1894.	Mathewson, Frank Mason
1891.	Matteson, Charles
1889.	Matteson, George Washington Richmond
1895.	McCabe, Anthony
1891.	McGuinness, Edwin Daniel
1891.	Mead, William Bradley
1883.	Meader, Lewis Hamilton
1890.	Metcalf, Alfred
1876.	Metcalf, Henry B.
1896.	Miller, Horace George
1875.	Miller, Augustus Samuel
1897.	Mitchell, Frank Roscoe
1891.	Moulton, David C.
1890.	Moulton, Edmund T.
1899.	Mowry, Arlon
1880.	Munro, Wilfred Harold
1895.	Newell, Timothy
1880.	Nichols, Amos G.
1894.	Nicholson, Samuel Mowry
1876.	Nickerson, Edward Irving
1874.	Nightingale, George Corlis
1897.	Nightingale, George Corlis, Jr.
1897.	Noyes, Robert Fanning
1890.	Olney, Frank Fuller
1879.	Olney, George Henry
1888.	Packard, Alpheus Spring
1885.	Page, Charles Harris
1889.	Paine, Charles E. (C. E.)
1894.	Palmer, John Simmons
1890.	Parker, Edward D. L.
1897.	Parkhurst, Charles Dyer
1887.	Peck, Walter Asa
1899.	Peckham, William Mackey
1875.	Pegram, John Combe
1898.	Peirce, Clarence Eugene
1896.	Pendleton, Charles Leonard
1898.	Perry, George Adelbert
1880.	Perry, Marsden J.
1874.	Persons, Benjamin Williams

ELECTED.	
1891.	Phillips, Gilbert A.
1873.	Phillips, Theodore Winthrop
1899.	Poland, William Carey
1878.	Porter, Emory Huntington
1895.	Potter, Albert
1887.	Preston, Howard Willis
1897.	Randolph, Elizabeth Lyman
1896.	Rhodes, Christopher
1891.	Richards, Henry Francis
1891.	Richmond, Caroline
1877.	Richmond, Walter
1898.	Rickard, Abbie Smith Weld
1891.	Ripley, James Morrison
1898.	Rivers, Mary
1881.	Roelker, William Greene
1888.	Rogers, Arthur
1890.	Rugg, Henry Warren
1897.	Sackett, Frederic M.
1896.	Sawin, Isaac Warren
1899.	Sayles, Frederick A.
1899.	Sears, Adeline Harris
1874.	Shedd, Joel Herbert
1881.	Sheffield, William Paine, Jr.
1885.	Sheldon, Nicholas
1898.	Shepard, Elizabeth Anne
1879.	Shepley, George L.
1896.	Simmons, Egbert Wiltse
1894.	Sisson, Henry Tillinghast
1897.	Slade, Susan Elizabeth
1875.	Smith, Edwin Augustus
1899.	Smith, Richard W.
1897.	Smith, Walter R.
1894.	Snow, Louis Franklin
1869.	Southwick, Isaac Hinckley
1885.	Southwick, Isaac Hinckley, Jr.
1881.	Spooner, Henry Joshua
1898.	Sprague, Charles Hutchins
1888.	Stark, Charles Rathbone
1879.	Stiness, John Henry
1899.	Stockwell, George Appleton
1881.	Stone, Alfred
1886.	Sturges, Howard Okie
1894.	Swarts, Gardner Taber
1856.	Taft, Royal Chapin

ELECTED.		ELECTED.	
1883.	Talbot, Frederick	1899.	Washburn, Mary Fessenden
1874.	Taylor, Charles Frederick	1890.	Webb, Samuel Herbert
1896.	Thayer, Edgar Sheppard	1896.	Webster, Josiah L.
1881.	Thomas, Charles Lloyd	1868.	Weeden, William Babcock
1890.	Thornton, George Mumford	1887.	Welling, Richard Ward Greene
1891.	Thurston, Benjamin Francis	1894.	Weston, George Franklin
1889.	Tillinghast, James	1890.	Whitaker, Nelson Bowen
1898.	Tillinghast, William Richmond	1884.	White, Stillman
1899.	Tinkham, William	1896.	White, Willis H.
1891.	Tourtellot, Amasa C.	1874.	Whitford, George Washington
1890.	Tower, James H.	1884.	Wilbour, Joshua
1891.	Traver, Adelia Elizabeth A.	1891.	Wilbur, George Albert
1885.	Updike, Daniel Berkeley	1896.	Williams, Alonzo
1896.	Vincent, Walter Borodell	1895.	Winship, George Parker
1895.	Vinton, Frederick Arnold	1891.	Willson, Edmund R.
1894.	Von Gottschalck, Mary H. B.	1888.	Wilson, George Grafton
1881.	Vose, James Gardner	1897.	Woods, John Carter Brown
1898.	Wardwell, W. T. C.		

NOTE: ROGER WILLIAMS'S WIFE.

For many years the maiden name of the wife of Roger Williams has been thought to have been Warnard or Warnerd. Knowles, in his *Memoir of Roger Williams*, 1834, says in a footnote to page 31, "Mr. William Harris, in a letter, speaks of a Mr. Warnard, as a brother of Mrs. Williams, apparently meaning the wife of Roger Williams. This is the only hint which the author has found, respecting the family of Mrs. Williams." Knowles probably obtained this information from Moses Brown, to whom he acknowledges his obligations in the preface.

The letter referred to was from William Harris to Captain Dean, dated November 14, 1666. A copy of it, made by Moses Brown, was printed a few years ago by Mr. Robert Harris in a leaflet entitled *Some William Harris Memoranda.* The following extract from a letter of Mr. Robert Harris to Mr. Almon D. Hodges, Jr., (printed in the *N. E. Historical and Genealogical Register* for Jan-

uary 1895, gives [illegible] information concerning the Moses Brown copy of the letter. "The original letter to Captain Dean is lost — probably destroyed when the Jenkins residence burned, forty or fifty years ago. Mrs. Jenkins was Moses Brown's sole heir. William J. Harris nephew to Mr Brown's fourth wife, lived with his uncle and was one of his executors. Likewise was the 'younger person' who assisted Moses in making his copy of the Dean letter. He made the copy which I have in my possession and from which text in the reader was printed. I then had the Moses Brown copy and but it was very [illegible]."

The original letter of William Harris to Capt. Dean has at last turned up, having been recently sold at auction with some old papers in the possession of the Historical Society. The passage concerning Roger Williams's wife unmistakably reads as follows. "I have sent you a first and second bill of 50 l sterling in two severall letters. I left the letters with one Mr Barnard whoe knowes yourself. he is brother to Mr williams his wife the sd Mr Barnard."

If this clue could be followed out by searching English records, the parentage of Roger Williams's wife could probably be ascertained.

C. S. B.

Previous Works of the Rhode Island Historical Society, obtainable at the Cabinet.

The Society has issued nine octavo volumes of Collections as follows:—

Vol. 1. *Roger Williams's Key to the Indian Language*, original printed in London, 1644; reprinted by the Society, 1827, pp. 163 $4.00

" 2. *Gorton's Simplicity's Defence*, original, London, 1646; reprint, edited by W. R. Staples, 1835, pp. 278 ..... 3.00

" 3. *Potter's Early History of Narragansett*, 1835, pp. 315; reprinted by William H. Potter, Esq., 1886, with notes and additional matter by the distinguished author and jurist, Elisha R. Potter; reprint, pp. 423 and xv 5.00

" 4. *Callender's Historical Discourse*, original, 1739; reprint, 1835, edited by Professor Elton, pp. 270 ..... 5.00

" 5. *Staples's Annals of Providence*, 1843, pp. 670 and vi., seldom obtainable at the Cabinet; ordinary price about 10.00

" 6. *Invasion of Canada under Montgomery and Arnold, Thayer's Journal, Revolutionary Correspondence*, etc., 1867, pp. 380 and xxiv 2.50

" 7. *Early attempts at Rhode Island History; Narragansett Indians; R. I. Notaries of Natural Science; The British in Rhode Island; First Commencement of Rhode Island College*, etc., 1885, pp. 380 ..... 2.50

" 8. *John Comer's Diary*, 1893, pp. 132 ..... 1.00

" 9. *Dorr's Sketch of the Controversy between the Proprietors and the Freeholders of Providence*, 1897, pp. 141 ..... 1.25

Volumes 3, 4, and 5 of the Collections have long been out of print.

The Society's Proceedings, 1872–92, 21 numbers 16.00

Single numbers of the same, each 1.00

For the *Publications*, see p. 2 of this cover.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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WHOLE NUMBER, 30

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PUBLICATIONS

OF THE

RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

VOL. VIII. JULY, 1900. NO. 2.

FRANCIS BRINLEY'S BRIEFE NARRATIVE OF THE NANHIGANSET COUNTREY.

SOME months ago Mr. Robert C. Winthrop of Boston presented to the editor, for the Society, the following document, signed with the name of Francis Brinley, which he had found among the Winthrop Papers, his ancestral possession. The paper, Mr. Winthrop says, must have been sent either to Fitz-John or to Wait Winthrop. But though he has a number of letters from Francis Brinley to them, none refer to this paper. On examination it proves to be in large part identical with an anonymous document printed in the third series of the *Collections* of the Massachusetts Historical Society, I. 209–228[1], with the title "A Brief Narrative of that Part of New England called the Nanhiganset Country." The authorship of that piece is thus made known.

But the new manuscript also presents a different and a more correct text of the narrative, and this to a degree which makes it worth while to print it upon the following pages. The text printed by the Massachusetts Historical Society three-quarters of a century ago was derived from the nineteenth volume of the Trumbull Papers. That volume was unfortunately destroyed by fire in James Savage's office in 1825, so that we are deprived of some of the usual means of

[1] And reprinted, without acknowledgment, in the *Narragansett Historical Register*, VIII. 176–199.

testing the relations between the two versions. Internal evidence, however, derived from a careful comparison of the two, makes it plain that the document recently acquired represents the original version, that printed long ago a secondary version. The differences are numerous and sometimes extensive, especially toward the end. The endorsement upon the present document seems to mark it as of the year which we call 1696, and this may probably be accepted; for such is the date of the "Copy of a warrant" with which the manuscript ends, and that copy of a warrant is written in the same hand as what precedes Brinley's first signature. Thus it would appear that neither of these two parts is of earlier date than 1696. That the first is not later may fairly be inferred from the fact that after the mention of Andros's rule over Narragansett (the Massachusetts print adds a mention of the subsequent rule by Rhode Island) the writer says "Under what government now it is, is not knowne to us in New England, but Suppose is determined," language which would hardly be used after news had arrived of the attorney-general's decision of October 28, 1696. It is true that the manuscript at one place designates Charles II. as "His late Majesty of blessed Memory," and it may be maintained that this expression, if ever appropriate as applied to that monarch (the version printed in 1825 omits "of blessed memory") would have seemed less proper after 1689 than before. But this is hardly true of a royalist like Brinley. After all, James II. had not died, and "His late Majesty" might fairly be held in 1696 to designate Charles II.

As for the portion of the manuscript which follows the first signature of Brinley and precedes the second, and which is written in a feebler hand than what precedes and follows it, it is plainly of the year 1707. For toward the end, it will be observed, the writer speaks of himself as having lived in New England "neare 56 yeares," while in the note which concludes his set of Narragansett documents printed in the *Collections* of

the Massachusetts Historical Society, V. 216–252, and which is dated October 26, 1709, he says that he had then been "a liver and inhabitant in Rhode-Island upwards of fifty-eight years." This supplementary portion does not appear at all in the version printed in 1825.

An additional and strong reason for the present printing, beyond those already mentioned, lies in the extreme incorrectness of that of 1825. The editor of the volume in which it appears says that the manuscript which he uses "evidently appears a modern copy by a hand not much skilled in orthography." In point of fact, it often does not make sense.

Brinley's position as a leader of the royalists in Rhode Island and his course with respect to the colonial government and the Narragansett lands are too well known to require statement here. Several letters of this period, signed by him, alone or in conjunction with others, are printed in the third volume of Bartlett's *Records of the Colony of Rhode Island.* Another of his letters, which we print after the "Briefe Narrative," is in the possession of the Massachusetts Historical Society, by whose kind permission it is printed. It was addressed to Colonel (afterward Sir) Francis Nicholson, and was written to accompany Brinley's "Brief Account of the Several Settlements and Governments in and about the lands of the Narraganset Bay," printed in the *Collections* of the Massachusetts Historical Society, V. 216–218, and the documents which follow in that volume. Nicholson had been successively lieutenant-governor of New York and of Virginia, governor of Maryland and of Virginia; subsequently he was governor of Acadia, and finally of South Carolina. At the time when this caustic letter was written he had just been joint commander with Colonel Vetch in an English and colonial military enterprise against Canada. After the failure of his Wood Creek expedition he had returned to Boston, and was now on the point of sailing for England.[1] He had visited

[1] Parkman, *Half-Century of Conflict*, I. 131-141.

Rhode Island in the preceding May, and had been entertained at Newport by the colony.[1] It was natural that Brinley should look to him for aid in the accomplishment of the desires which he expresses.

A BRIEFE NARRATIVE OF THAT PART OF NEW ENGLAND CALLED THE NANHIGANSET COUNTREY.

It is an undoubted trueth and knowne to many persons now living that Canonicus was the sole and chiefe Governour or Sachem of the Nanhigansett countrey, wch allso might be distinguished by particular appellations, as the Coweset Countrey, Nianticot countrey, and many more not commonly knowne, but in generall tearmes passed under the denomination of the Nanhiganset countrey, whose bounds and limits may and is supposed, by the best evidence of sundry ancient persons both English and Indians to be confined, Northerly by Pautucket river, Quinebaug and Nipmuck countries, Westerly by a brooke called Wecapaug not far from Paugatuck river, Southerly by th^e^ Sea or maine ocean, and eastwardly by the Nanhiganset bay, wch bounds includes the whole dominions and territory belonging to the aforesaid Canonicus and other the Nanhiganset Sachems hereafter named, (viz) Miantonomy, Cussucquunsh, alias Pessicus alias Mosep, for the Indians change their names, and Cajanaquond all being the Sons of Canonicus his brother, and Niniclad his Sisters Son, Mecksa was the Son of Canonicus, and after his father's death was the Chiefe Sachem, who married with Mattantuck Sister to Niniclad, who had two Sons named Scuttop and Quequaquenuit alias Gideon, who died young and a daughter named Quinemique who allso died young, Mattantuck the mother of those last above named, was a woman of great power was commonly called the old Queene, was killed in the Indian wars, Quonepin was the son of Cajanaquond,

[1] See *Records of the Colony*, IV. 73, and Governor Cranston's letters there printed.

and was shot to death in Newport. Miantonomy aforesaid was taken prisoner by th^e^ Mohegin Indians, a nation in war with them and by them put to death, Cussucquunsh beforenamed was killed by the Moquois in the wilderness about 20 mile above Piscataquay, in his travayle eastward in the time of th^e^ Indian wars, and other Indians with him, and were buried by order of Maj^r^ Walden [*i.e.*, Waldron] of Piscataquay. Canonicus being the sole Govern^r^ or Cheife Sachem, imployed his Nephew Miantonomy to manage his warlike affaires, as Generall of his armys, and in his declining yeares, tooke him as a partner in his government for assistance, it being a Custome among the Indians, th^t^ all persons of the bloud Royall did by degrees in Some measure beare sway in the government and each Sachem had his particular place of residence, and a kind of bounds betweene them, but not positively certaine or determinate, and each Sachem had his particular men or Subjects, who submitted to him as head or Chiefe. Under these Sachems are many Petty Sachems or Captaines, who beare Some rule or Command among the people, but subordinate to the Chiefe Sachems, whose Commands are absolute and without Controule, yet much guided by their Councill, who are chose^n^ for their wisedome and ability. To these Sachems belong the power of disposall of lands, to wch their people Subject themselves, as a power due to them, Some gratuity being usually bestowed upon the possessors by th^e^ Purchasers to make them the more free to remove and depart

Matters being thus stated the next thing requisite is to shew the graduall purchases and settlement of the English in this Countrey, and first Mr Roger Williams bought of Canonicus and Miantonomy a tract of land about the yeare 1636 chiefly scituated betweene two Rivers Called Pautucket and Pautuxit, about five miles in distance, its extension into the Countrey to me unknowne and with some other persons, setled a Towne and Called it Providence, and allthough its

beginning was small, yet now is considerable, having many Inhabitants

The next Towne Southward Called Warwick was purchased of Miantonomy by 11 or 12 persons whose names are all mentioned in their deed of sale bearing date 12th January 1642, and are all since deceased

About this time or rather before Mr Richard Smith Senior went further Southward into the Nanhiganset Countrey about 12 miles, and by the Sachems leave erected a house for trade neare a place called by the Natives Cacumquussuck, and afterwards bought the land, and there remained alone among his Indian neighbours, for severall yeares, adjudged by Mr Richard Smith Junior to be thirty thousand Inhabitants young and old, untill Mr Roger Williams aforementioned about 7 or 8 yeares after Came thither, and built another house for trade not far from the former who in a few yeares grew weary of his new settlement, and sold it to Mr Richd Smith, and departed, who againe remained alone, being Courteous to all Straingers passing tht way, till the yeare 1659

After conquest of the Pequots the Nanhigansett Sachems being friendly to the English, did Capitulate and agree with the United Colonies, upon sundry articles and conclusions, and did then submit themselves and people unto his Majties governement, and to be tried by the English laws in case of difference as by said articles may be seene

Afterwards Pomham and Sacanocho put themselves, &c under the government of the Massathusets by writing signed by them June 22th 1643 being interpreted to them by Mr Benedict Arnold and in March 7th 1644 Wassamegon, Nashawanon, Cutshamacke, Mascanomett and Squaw Sachem made their voluntary submissions to the Massathusets Colony. And in the 19th Aprill 1644 Pessicus and Canonicus submitted themselves and people, to the care protection and government of his Majtie, as may appeare in print

These settlements of the Nanhiganset Countrey abovementioned by the English together with Rhode Island lying eastward in the Nanhiganset bay, being then without any governement, but what they set up of themselves by Consent, The Colony of the Massathusets procured a Charter for government of the Nanhiganset Countrey from some Lords in England dated 10th December 1643. Afterwards Mr Roger Williams beforementioned, procured another Charter for the same tract of land from the same Lords, dated 14th March 1643, but being invalid in themselves, and the powers that granted them condemned afterwards, they fell of themselves and Came to nothing

But to proceed to further settlements in the Nanhiganset Countrey to the Southward and Northward of Mr Smiths house, Mr John Hull, John Porter, Samuell Wilbore, Samuell Willson, and Thomas Mumford purchased some lands about the yeare 1658 at or about Point Judah as ℔ their deeds appeares.

Another Purchase was then allso made by Mr John Winthrop, Majr Humphrey Atherton and others joyned with them, of Cajanaquond, for a Tract of land lying to the Northward of Mr Smiths house Called Acquedneset and Potowomuck neck as ℔ deed bearing date June 11th 1659 appeares.

Againe the same men purchased another tract of land, of Cajanaquond, lying to the Southward of Mr Smiths house, Called Naomcuck neck, now called Boston neck, and a further tract without the neck, adjoyning to it, and bounded with certaine bounds, as appeares by deed dated July 4th 1659. For confirmation of these two purchases Scuttop the grandson of Canonicus Ratifies and confirmes the sale thereof by his deed dated August 5th 1659

Cussucquunsh, Scuttop, and Quequanuit allso confirmes the sale of the two tracts abovementioned by their deed, dated 14th June 1660.

The Nanhiganset Indians having don damage to Some English living about Mohegin, in a hostile manner, and being called to account for the Same, to make Satisfaction, The Nanhiganset Sachems agreed with the Commissioners of the united Colonies to pay them 600 fathom of wampam peage, or thereabouts, and for performance, did mortgage and make over their whole Countrey to the said Commissioners by their deed dated in September 1660; But having not the peage and fearing they should not provide it in time, They apply themselves to Majr Humphrey Atherton and his Associates, desiring them to pay their obligation, and they would assigne over the said Mortgage to them, whereupon a new Mortgage was made to Majr Atherton and his Associates of the premises and a longer day allowed them, for payment with all necessary charges arising thereon, as ℔ deed dated 13th October 1660 appeares, and Signed by Cussucquunsh, Niniclad, Scuttop and Quequanuit, the foure principall Sachems of tht Countrey

According to this agreement, Majr Atherton and his Associates paies unto Mr John Winthrop Governour of Connecticut, in behalfe of the united Colonies, seaven hundred thirty five fathom of wampam peage, as ℔ his receit appeares dated 16th November 1660.

And having given the said Sachems further daies of payment from time to time, and no payment made they about or neare two yeares after surrendered up the Said lands by Turf and Twig in the presence of two or three hundred witnesses, both English and Indians, four of wch English witnesses have given their Oaths to the trueth thereof, as may appeare by their testimonies dated September 22th 1662, and further in the yeare 1664, upon gratuitys given and twenty pounds in money paid, Scuttop acknowledges full satisfaction received of all debts and demands whatever for the lands of the whole Countrey of Nanhiganset

Mattantuck Relict of Micksa Called the old Queene, confirmes what her Sons did, as by her deed dated 1st October 1668.

Scuttop and his Sister confirmes the aforesaid grants, and the possession given, and desires to be under the English governmt, as ℔ their deed dated 28th December 1664 may be seene

Quonepin, Son of Cajanaquond confirmes and ratifies what his father had don as ℔ his deed dated 24th October 1672 appeares.

Lastly The Sachems in their articles of peace on the 15th July 1675 in the 7th article, renewed and confirmed, unto the English, all their former grants, and Conveyances of lands, sold them and allso all former articles made with the confederate Colonys.

By what is abovewritten appeares the legality of these purchases bought bona fide, (and due consideration paid for them) of the Native Princes, the true Owners and Proprietors of the said lands, from whom all the other purchases in this bay were had, as Prudence Island, Rhode Isld, Quononaquut Island and the rest, and my Lord Vaughan in his reports saith, without leave and permission of the first Occupants of a land, no person Can have a legall title thereto. One purchase I had forgot to insert, wch was of a tract of land lying to the Southward of Mr Smiths house bought of the Sachems, by Mr Samuell Gorton and Mr Randall Howldon, most of wch tract Mr Smith afterwards bought of them and their Assignes, All wch tracts of land abovementioned were purchased before ever any government was here setled by his Majtie and by his Majtie in his Charters afterwards approved. I cannot understand what reason any person Can render, why one purchase in this tract should be accounted good, and another bought of the same persons condemned, and yet that is and hath been generally the practize here. The purchases of Rhode Island, Providence, Warwick and Quononaquut and the other pur-

chases in the Nanhigansett Countrey came all from the Same Sachems and their Successors. Perhaps Some interested or prejudiced persons may endeavour to weaken these titles by meanes of Pessicus and Canonicus their Subjection to his Maj^tie in the^e yeare 1644. They allso did the same thing presently after the Pequod war. and Pomham and Sacconocco the like in the yeare 1643. The first was don before any purchases were made in Nanhiganset Countrey, Providence excepted. Yet those Sachems never intended thereby, That they had given away their particular rights, or the power of the disposition of their lands, neither did his Maj^ty intend thereby to deprive th^m of their native rights wch they had in reigne. as appeared afterwards by th^e severall charters granted by his Maj^tie, wch approves of the Severall purchases, and as a motive to induce his Maj^tie to grant the said Charters, be sides therein, is the bringing the heathen to the sincere profession and obedience of the Christian faith, wch the depriving th^m of their lawfull rights and liberties, could Never be thought effective to accomplish, but would rather deter them. For after their Subjection, they concluded they were Sachems as before. and lost no right nor power, but rather strengthned themselves in their power. But if their power of government was gon thereby, wch never was deemed so to bee. yet then they ought to have equall priviledges with their fellow Subjects, to dispose of their owne without controule, by their subjection They became not villeines. There is a great disparity betweene a throne and a Slave, and those that advized them to so injurious an act, cannot possibly be tearmed their friends, but rather deserve a name of infamy, for abusing a harmelesse and innocent people

Whereas a clamorous noise is made, That th^e Indian Sachems tendred their wampam-peage at th^e day præfixed to redeeme their lands, but none could be found to receive it, perhaps Some ill disposed persons might furnish an Indian with some peage to say th^e pay was ready, and tooke witnes

of it, thinking thereby to gaine th^e^ land to themselves, but Maj^r^ Atherton and Company was ignorant of any such thing, and they have declared the Same before his Maj^tie^ and for their vindication it may be thus demonstrated. The payment was due Sometime in Aprill 1661. The Sachems gave possession of the land in 1662, wch They would not have don, if their peage had beene ready to redeeme their land. Scuttop in 1664 gives a receit in full of all demands touching the premises, and acknowledges satisfaction, and in the same yeare afterwards he and his Sister confirmes the lands sold and ownes the possession given by turf and twig; and When th^e^ Kings Commissioners were here in 1664, There was no such Complaint made to them, th^t^ th^e^ peage was tendred, but rather the contrary by their following order to pay it within such a time, and after th^e^ said Commissioners had passed that severe sentence to quit their habitations &c It could not be, for Collonell Nicolls without whom There Could be no act, by another order disanuld that severe sentence and made it of no force. and afterwards Mattantuck in 1668 confirmed her sons grants, and in th^e^ yeare 1672 Quonepin confirmed what his father had don. And the Sachems in 1675 in their articles of peace, made a full acknowledgment of their Satisfaction in th^t^ point, and ratified their former acts. Here may be roome for a mistake, wch may not be impertinent to insert. Tuckonomo an Indian sold land to Some Warwick men, and took peage for it. His father disliking his Son should sell land while he was living, carried the peage to Warwick and tendered it to them before Sr Robert Car, but not being accepted, Sr Robert Car, as it's said, tooke it — perhaps this may be the wampam peage so much talkt of.

Thus having shewed the legall Çonveyances from the Natives, Something shall be declared of the confirmation and graduall progresse of his Maj^tie^ and his Subjects, by his power, and Commissions, in these affaires of the Nanhiganset countrey, both as to government and Soil for here was nothing of government, but what lay under Condemnation

After it had pleased the Lord to restore his late Majtie of blessed memory to the throne of his Ancestors, who for a long time was kept by Strong hand from the governement of his three Kingdomes, His Subjects in New England did make their severall applications to his Majtie Some desiring Charters of incorporation for govenement, others for confirmation of those formerly granted. His Majtie to gratifie his Subjects requests, did grant two Charters of incorporation; The first to his Subjects of Connecticut in the 14th yeare of his raigne, whose easterne bounds was Nanhiganset bay or River, and thereby including all the Nanhiganset Countrey, and was by his Majtie called the Colony of Connecticut, wch extension of the Nanhiganset countrey within their Charter seemed prejudiciall to the desires and requests of the people of Rhode Island and Providence plantations, who requested the same, and may be thought more commodious for the people of Rhode Island &c then for the people of Connecticut, being by them, as is said, Surreptitiously procured. To compose wich difference, a reference was made to Some worthy gentlemen in England, who drew up their result under foure heads, to wch the Agents for both Colonies signed and approved, as a finall determination, One whereof was That Paugatuck river should be the certaine bounds betweene the two Colonies, wch said river shall be for the future called Nanhigansett river. The 2d concernes Quinebaug purchase, 3dly That the Proprietors and Inhabitants of that land about Mr Smiths trading house, Claimed or purchased by Majr Atherton and others, shall have free liberty to choose to wch of those Colonies They will belong. 4thly. That propriety shall not be altered nor destroyed, but carefully maintained throughout the said Colonies. Wherupon a Charter of incorporation was granted in the 15th yeare of his Majties raigne, to the people of Rhode Island &c and Called the English Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations &c and in said Charter is inserted the agreement of the

two Agents, wch said Charter comprehends the Nanhiganset Countrey to Paugatuck alias Nanhiganset River. Altho' through inadvertency, the Colony of Rhode Island &c in one of their addresses afterwards, say, There is no such river knowne. But the Purchasers with Maj^r^ Atherton being infringed of th^t^ liberty was granted them in the agreement aforementioned of the two Agents, They addressed themselves to his Maj^tie^ for reliefe. His Maj^tie^ recommends the Care and protection of them to the United Colonies in New England by his letter dated 21th January 1663. But better to compose any difference arising betweene Colony and Colony &c His Maj^tie^ thought fitt to grant a Commission to Coll^o^ Richard Nicolls, Sr Robert Car Kn^t^ George Cartwright and Samuell Maverick Esqr and constitutes them Commissioners, or the Survivors of them — of whom Collo^ll^ Richard Nicolls during his life to be allwaies one, and to have the decisive vote, to examine and determine differences, as may appeare by their Commissions dated 25th Aprill in the 16th yeare of his raigne. Whereupon Sr Robt Car, Mr George Cartwright and Mr Samuell Maverick sitting at Pittaquomscut, upon complaint made to them, did order the Nanhiganset Countrey for the future to be Called the Kings Province and that no person of what Colony so ever presume to exercise any jurisdiction within the Kings Province, but such as Received authority from them under their hands and seales, untill his Maj^ties^ pleasure be further Knowne, and did then and there declare the purchases of Maj^r^ Atherton to be void, and did order the Inhibitants thereon to quit their habitations, by Michaelmas following as may be seene at large by their order of 20th March 1664.

In order to the Setling a government in the Kings Province, after they had taken it from all other Colonies, They granted the government of it the same day to 14 persons, part whereof were officers in the governement of Rhode Island, &c and part private persons, and did make them Justices of

peace and Magistrates throughout the said Province, and that any seaven of them whereof the Govern^{r} or Deputy Governour should be one, to be a Court to determine any busines and That the Deputy Govern^{r} should be a Magistrate, when the Govern^{r} was present, and on the 8th Aprill 1665 The said Commissioners put an end to that Commission, and further ordred that the Govern^{r} and Deputy Govr and Assistants of said Colony for the time being, to be and to exercise th^{e} authority of Justices of peace, and to doe what they thinke fit for the peace and Safety thereof, and as neare as they Can to the English laws untill his Maj^{ties} pleasure be further knowne &c. Whereby it appeares That th^{e} said Commissioners tooke the governm^{t} of Nanhiganset from Connecticut and Rhode Island &c, and gave it unto the Govern^{r} Dep^{ty} Gov. and Magistrates of Rhode Island &c only (not to the Colony nor the Assembly) to be and exercise th^{e} authority of Justices of the peace.

But upon Complaint to Coll Richd Nicolls aforesaid, who during his life ought allwaies to be one he with Sr Robert Car and Mr Maverick reversed part of the aforesaid orders in these words following Whereas by a former order bearing date the 20th of March 1664 at Pittaquomscut, It was then ordered That all the Inabitants within the Kings Province of Nanhiganset should quit their habitations and Plantations the moneth September following, Wee have upon more Serious deliberation thought fit to order and appoint, and by these presents doe order and appoint, That the said former order shall not remaine in force, and that the said Inhabitants of the Kings Province of Nanhiganset, Shall remaine in quiet, full and peaceable possession, of all their lands, houses and appurtenances, untill his Maj^{ties} pleasure be further knowne, any order before made or granted to the Contrary notwithstanding. Given under our hands and seales th^{e} fifteenth day of September 1665. Richard Nicolls, Robert Car Samuell Maverick. and was directed To the Justices of peace and

Magistrates of Rhode Island appointed by his Maj^ties^ Commissioners to regulate and governe the Kings Province untill his Maj^ties^ pleasure be further knowne. Here is no direction to the Govern^r^ of Rhode Island &c but to the Justices of their owne appointment. There were two orders more from the Same Commissioners to the same purport, one in August 1665, th^e^ other in November following, one whereof more particularly speakes to the matter. That Coll Nicolls disliked the Removeall of any famelies then setled in Nanhiganset, may be seene by his letters and protests against all those th^t^ molested the heires of Mr Haynes, and an Indian named Hermon Garrat in their possessions, and directed th^m^ To the Justices of peace &c.

And for the more certainty of the bounds of the Kings Province, The Governor and Councill of Rhode Island in the yeare 1669 states the bounds to be, Notherly on the South line of Warwick from West to east to the sea or bay commonly called Coweset bay, and from thence round about to the Southward and westward confined by the Salt water to the mouth of Paugatuck alias Nanhiganset river, where th^e^ said river falleth into the Sea, and so up northerly to the middle of a ford in the said River, next above Thomas Shaws house, and thence upon a due north line extending towards the Southerly line of the Massathusets Colony and untill it Come in Latitude of the South line of Warwick, wch abovewritten bounds was afterwards sent to Mr Edward Randolph to be communicated to the honoured President Joseph Dudly Esqr and signed by John Greene, July 13th 1686

And for a further confirmation of Maj^r^ Atherton and Associates their rights and titles to the lands abovementioned, The Generall Assembly of the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations passed an act in their Court held 20th October 1672, and confirmed their deed or deeds, grant or grants, and declares those deeds or grants shall be a good and lawfull estate and title to them to possesse and enjoy for

ever. And whereas it is commonly reported, That th^e^ land Called the mortgage land is not concerned in this act, Their mistake or error may easily be corrected not only by Some of th^t^ Assembly now living, who then had a full debate of the matter, but by th^e^ Petitioners whose interest lay therein, and not elsewhere, and the Specifick denomination therein expressed

Next in order Comes to view another act of the generall Assembly of Rhode Island, made six yeares after in 1678 sitting by adjournement, Repugnant to their former act in 1672 and the Kings Commissioners order in 1664 and thereby all persons whatever are prohibited to settle in Nanhiganset without their leave and approbation, and that the government and disposition of those lands belong to them ; and in th^e^ next yeare July 9th 1679 Contradicts their former act in 1678, and declares the government to be as the Kings Commissioners ordered it

Thus far is declared the originall settlements of the Nanhiganset Countrey, The Severall purchases thereof and governments to 1679, The severall contests, the acts and orders, confirmations and prohibitions from time to time. But now at last comes the Kings pleasure to be knowne for the issuing of all Contests and differences about this litigious Countrey of Nanhigansett. The occasion thereof was given by a Contest ariseing betweene Mr William Harris &c of Pautuxit, and the Towne of the Warwick about certaine lands claimed by both parties. To the issueing whereof Capt Randall Howldon and Capt John Greene Deputy's of the Towne of Warwick preferre a petition to his late Maj^tie^ of blessed memory in or about th^e^ yeare 1678, and in their petition made a digression from the matter of their owne lands, and at once stept into the Nanhiganset countrey, giving his Maj^tie^ Some acco^t^ thereof, not pertinent to their present deputation, wch gave occasion to the Lords of the Committee for trade and Plantations, to notifie unto them a petition presented to his

Majtie by Mr Richard Smith Concerning the Nanhigansett Countrey, for wch afterwards the said Smith Contrary to law was apprehended by warrant granted in Rhode Island and made a prisoner to answer for laying a petition before the King and Councill. To wch petition of said Richd Smiths, the said Howldon and Greene readily answered, and his Majtie finding their reports various and the differences great, tooke the readiest way to issue them, and therefore by his letters to the Severall Colonies in New England dated 12th February 167$\frac{8}{9}$ acquaints them That Capt Howldon and Greene Deputies of the Towne of Warwick had certified his Privy Councill of their certaine Knowledge, as having inhabited that Countrey for above 40 yeares, That never any Legall purchases had beene made thereof from the Indians by the Massathusets or any others, and that the Indian Sachems had Submitted themselves and people unto the government of King Charles the first, of blessed memory, and that the deeds and grants of Majr Atherton and his Associates were made null and void by his Majties Commissioners. to this purport and effect his Majties letter speakes, whereby his Majtie concludes, tht the Absolute Soveraignty as well as the particular propriety is vested in him, and therfore strictly wills and requires that all things relating to the Kings Province or Nanhiganset Countrey, should remaine in the Same condition as now they are or lately have beene in, as to the possession and governmt and to put a Stop to any future Contests here, commands all persons, who pretend any right or title to the Soile or government of the said lands, that they forthwith send over persons Sufficiently impowered and instructed to make their rights and titles appeare before his Majtie and for want thereof His Majtie will proceed &c

Whereby we may understand That his Majtie upon the information given him as before rehearsed, asserts his right both to soile and governement of the Nanhiganset Countrey, and thereby makes null and void the act of the Assembly of

since [illegible] 16[illegible]. w[ch] saies that the government [illegible] belongs to them. but his Maj[tie] saies it is [illegible] February 16[illegible] that the government and [illegible] belongs to him. The Assembly forbids any persons to [illegible] any lands there without their leave. His Maj[tie] commands us to come to him for our rights and make our titles [illegible] him. In that all things shall remaine in Statu [illegible]. The onely way is to give obedience to the Kings Commands. Sir Edward Sir Greene acted not [illegible] for [illegible] to account to his Maj[tie] That his Commissioners do take the Narr[agansett] purchases and [illegible] Commissioners shall [illegible] their allowances, &c: and to be [illegible] in the matter of greatest importance That Collonell Thomas Willis, with [illegible] The Rulers could not act, did make null [illegible] That the Inhabitants should [illegible] their plantations, notwithstanding any right to the Country. It cannot be thought [illegible] that any Englishman should be turned out of his [illegible] by the judgement of his Peers and the law of [illegible] is the law requires and commands, and he th[at] [illegible] time to negotiate for it at Court, may make [illegible] to be turned out next. for what measure [illegible] must still be meted to you again

It is not [illegible] Sir Edward and Cap[t] Greene made a [illegible] before his Maj[tie] Privy Council, and that of [illegible] favourable. That never any legall purchase was [illegible] in the Narragansett Country. thereby condemning the [illegible] of Providence and Warwick as well as all others in [illegible] Country. and brings as an evidence to vindicate their [illegible] That mistaking that Country above forty yeares. [illegible] not. There was no purchase legally made this 40 [illegible] but they positively affirme There never was any. To say a thing never was don, tho might be don, is to affirme a [illegible] w[ch] no man can doe unles he were omniscient, w[ch] belongs to God alone. So that affirmation stands good against

themselves, and may be truly spoken by them in their owne purchases, if they know them to be so, but against others invalid and of no force, because they cannot be omniscient. Neither did this information gaine credit with his Majestie, for then his Majtie would immediately have setled the governement and disposed the lands but he Concludes his Subjects had a right and therefore commands them to make their rights appeare before him. And the Purchasers with Majr Atherton know their purchases to be good, and as firme and valid as any Indian purchases are or can be for the lands in this bay possessed by others, and much more legally drawne then many others, and allso believe That the Inhabitants of Providence and Warwick Came honestly and legally by their lands they possesse and enjoy, by purchase from the Natives, the true Proprietors and first Occupants thereon. But to proceed, after his Majtie had determined the case both as to governement and Soile and that every one should remaine in his possession &c and ordered all rights and titles to be brought before him, The Colony of Rhode Island &c made their application to his Majtie in the first place by their addresse dated 1st August 1679 Signed John Cranston Govr wherein they beg of his Majtie the lands they have formerly legally purchased of the native Indians, wch positively contradicts the former assertion That there were no legall purchases made, and allso humbly beseech his Majtie That he would bestow the unsetled and vacant lands, (as they tearme them) on them before any others; In wch application they observed not his Majties Command, to make their rights and titles appeare before him, for there is not the least mention of any right and title they had to the soile of those lands, for his Majtie did not promise the lands of others, who had a right and title to thm, to beggars, but to confirme it on them tht have the right, for no rationall man can imagine, That his Majestie will dispossesse his Subjects, of lands they have purchased, possessed and improved to a great value and now

for neare 40 yeares, and give it to others of his Subjects, that lay no claime to it nor have any right to it, nor expended their monies, unles to molest their neighbours in their just Settlements, for we are all the Kings Subjects, and his Majtie takes equall care of us all although under divers governements.

Afterwards in the yeare 1682, The Assembly of Rhode Island &c declares they will not meddle with the title or propriety of lands in difference, and Commands obedience to be given to his Majties Letter in 167⅞

The next addresse was made by the Colony of Connecticut, who sent their Agent Mr Wm Harris fully impowered and instructed to present their rights and claimes, but the said Harris being taken by the Algerines and carried into Algier, lost all his paper's and writings, and was allso deprived of his liberty to make due application to his Majtie in their behalfes that imployed him, wch being k[n]owne at Whitehall There was a Stop put to any further proceedings for Some time, as ℔ Mr Blathwayt letter to the government of Rhode Island, dated 11th June 1680 appeares.

Lastly Major Athartons Partners and Associates made their humble addresse to his Majtie declaring their rights to the Soile of that Countrey, and therein answered Some objections and rendred many reasons for their assertions and was presented in 1681. No other addresses being presented to his Majtie for any other claimes, it may reasonably be thought There was no more. Upon these applications made according to his Majties Command, His Majtie to Cause impartiall justice to be don among his Subjects here inhabiting, wch could not so well be understood at so great a distance, Caused a Commission to be drawne, and sent to Mr Edward Cranfield Mr William Stoughton, Mr Edward Randolph, Mr Nathaniell Saltingstone[1] and others impowering them to examine and inquire into the Severall titles and pretensions,

[1] Saltonstall.

as well as of his Majtie as of all other persons and Corporations whatsoever, to the jurisdiction, governmt or propriety of the Soile of or within the Kings Province, or Nanhiganset Countrey, as may appeare by the said Commission at large, and more particularly by the said Commissioners publique declaration in print dated July 19th 1683, who upon Convening at Mr Richard Smiths house in Nanhiganset, and Receiving such informations as was presented and claimes laid before thm at that time, adjourned from thence to Boston and summoned Capt Howldon and Captt Greene to give in evidence pursuant to the informations given his Majtie in Councill at Whitehall, &c and then and there received many more claimes and pretensions of right of particular persons, where allso was presented a printed booke Containing a deed bearing date 19th Aprill 1644, being the Subjection of two Sachems named Pessicus and Canonicus of themselves their people and lands to the Care, protection and government of King Charles the first of blessed memory, where, upon hearing of the whole matter that was presented to them, The said. Commissioners made a report to his Majtie in favour of the purchasers and partners with Majr Atharton to the soile of the said countrey, as may be seene by the said report at large dated the 20th October 1683 and presented to his Majtie at Whitehall; and in favour of Connecticut to the government

Upon wch report his Majtie declares and makes knowne his pleasure concerning the governmnt of the Kings Province, and puts a finall issue and determination to the temporary orders of his Commissioners in 1664, and grants a Commission to President Joseph Dudly dated October 1685 to take possession of the Governments of the Massathusets Colony, Province of Maine, New Hampshire, Kings Province or Nanhiganset Countrey, and to order rule and governe the Same, according to such methods, and regulations, as were therein specified

Where upon President Dudly tooke possession of the severall governments above expressed, in the yeare 1686, and in particular Came into the Kings Province, established Officers and Courts of Judicature, as may be seene by the Records thereof, and did Choose a Committee to examine th^e^ rights, titles and pretensions of the partners of Maj^r^ Atherton to the Soile of the said land, and upon report of the said Committee, allowed and confirmed their grants and Purchases, as may be Seen in the booke of Records, Edward Randolph Secretary, all persons then concerned yielding obedience, and the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations impowered Mr John Coggeshall and Mr Walter Newberry, to see the Presidents power, who not only had a sight of it, but carried away a copy with them, where upon Maj^r^ John Greene sent the Secretary a Copy of the bounds of the Kings Province, as the Govern^r^ and Councill of Rhode Island &c had Stated it Anno 1669, What power they had so to doe, is questionable, for the Charter gives no such power to th^e^ Govern^r^ and Councill, neither did the Kings Commissioners in 1664 give any power of government to the Assembly, or to the Governour and Councill, but did order and appoint the Govr Deputy Govern^r^ and Magistrates of Rhode Island &c to be Justices of peace throughout the Kings Province &c Neither is there any Generall Councill or Govern^r^ and Councill mentioned in the Charter. There is in one part of it mention made and a power given, to the Govern^r^ and in his absence the Deputy Govr and Maj^r^ part of the Assistants, when the Generall Assembly is not sitting, to appoint and Constitute military officers &c for warlike affaires only, all other matters are to be don by the Generall Assembly.

Afterwards many or most of the Inhabitants of Greenwich alias Depeford made their application to Maj^r^ Richard Smith being a Justice of peace, for the Settlement of their lands, as by their letter dated in November 1686 may be seene, and When Sr Edmond Andros Came over Govr of the Massathu-

setts Colony, he tooke not only the Kings Province into his governement, but Rhode Island Allso. Both wch governments beforegoing sufficiently makes knowne the Kings pleasure, and puts a final issue to his Commissioners temporary orders made in 1664. Under what governement now it is, is not knowne to us in New England, but Suppose is determined

If after all the abovesaid legall Conveyances and assurances of the Native Proprietors approbation and confirmation of Severall governments and Authorities passed thereon, There is Roome left for any future power to disanull all these former proceedings, and dispossesse the Purchasers after neare forty yeares settlement, what assurance can th^e^ next Authority propose, th^t^ may not as readily be made void by the Succeeding governments, and so in infinitum, and then what persons in Rhode Island Can say, the lands they possesse are their owne, and in their deeds may leave out, heires and Assignes, and instead thereof insert during the pleasure of th^e^ higher powers.

The abovewritten is a true and impartiall account of the affaires of the Nanhiganset Countrey, drawne up as briefe as may be, and may be proved by the writings and papers, to wch it refers

FRANCIS BRINLEY

Note That Canonicus abovementioned, was the Chiefe and only Sachem of The nation called the Nanhigansets, when the English came in this Countrey. he had two Brothers and one Sister, and a Son named Mecksa, his second brother had three sons named Miantomy, Cussucquunsh alias Pessicus alias Mosep, and Cajanaquond; his Sister had two Son's and a daughter. her eldest Son's name I know not, her second Son was Niniclad, and her daughter Mattantuck, who was wife to Mecksa

After Canonicus death his Son Mecksa ruled in his stead and swayed the Scepter, was the chiefe Sachem, and ruled with great power. he married with Niniclads Sister and had

by her two Sons and a daughter, (viz) Scuttop, Quequakenuit alias Gideon, and th^e^ Sister called Quineque. After Mecksas death his two Sons abovesaid were the Chiefe Sachems, together with their mother, Mattantuck called by the English the old queene a very powerfull woman among the Indians, her two Sons and daughter grew to full age, and died all young, their mother living till the Indian wars in 1675

Miantonomy above mentioned was killed by the Mohegin Indians, Cussucquunsh was killed by Moquois as above related, Quonepin was shot to death in Newport in the Indian war time, Niniclad died in peace, (but not in his bed) his Son Niniclad being a boy. Niniclad his father was not the eldest, but second Son of his Mother, he had an elder brother, who was neare of Kin to a foole, by reason of his weakenes, the Indians respected him as being of the bloud royall, but bore no sway in the governement. he had a son named Wannamachin now living (as I suppose) who takes place before Niniclad now living, th^e^ Son of the Younger Brother, in governement of those Indians th^t^ are left alive, but the lands they have none being all sold by their predecessors long since, before the people setled in the Nanhiganset bay and Countrey had any governement, but w^t^ they set up of themselves for their regulation, as Rhode Island set up one for themselves Providence another, at last united together after th^t^ a particular Commission came from the Long Parliament for the governement of Rhode Island Separ[a]tely from Providence, wch the people Submitted to, but in 8 or 9 moneths overthrew the governement and chose a Govern^r^ amongst themselves, and Sometimes afterwards let fall this new erected governement, and joyned againe with Providence wch Continued amongst them without regall or legal authority till the yeare 1660 when they were made a Corporation by grant for [from] his late Maj^tie^ King Charles the second, and never had any legall authority before: Before wch grant all the lands within that grant were purchased of the Natives, and the

Indians had none left, only a place allotted th^m^ to live on being but a handfull it may be fifty men, who are now under governement of the English. Yet of late for their interest of some persons they would make Niniclad a King, who hath neither land nor men that he can command, for many of the Indians care not at all for him. Besides There is an elder Brothers Son takes place before him, but their lands and power is gon, and they are Subject to the English laws.

I having lived here neare 56 yeares, know as much of these matters as most now alive, and have had great acquaintance with these Indians and have kept acco^ts^ and minutes of all transactions from time to time, and have beene an eye and eare witnes to most of those proceedings and much more too large here to be inserted, and have don it faithfully according to the best of my understanding, there being no materiall error in it, as I know tho' perhaps I may be Contradicted by Some persons in some matters spoken of, not suting their interests and designes

FRANCIS BRINLEY

Copy of a warrant granted forth by the persons signing the Same

> Whereas we are informed That John Saffin of Bristoll and Elisha Hutchinson of Boston, with others have appointed an unlawfull meeting at the house of Robert Littles in Newport th^e^ 17th instant.

These are therefore in his Maj^ties^ name King William of England and the dominions &c to require and forwarne John Saffin of Bristoll and Elisha Hutchinson of Boston afores^d^ or any persons confederated with them, that they forthwith on Sight hereof desist asserting th^e^ disposition of the lands in the Kings Province in this government, and allso to forbeare Calling or keeping any meeting in any part of this Colony relating to the premises without leave, and approbation of the

Assembly of this Said Colony, or for the drawing any person or people from their fidelity to the present governement as aforesaid as they will answer the Contrary

Newport on Rhode Island this 16th day of March $169\frac{5}{6}$
And all people in this governement are required in King Williams name, to yield obedience hereunto as they will answer the Contrary at their utmost perill

Walter Clark Govr.
Samuell Cranston Assist
James Barker Assist
Jonathan Hulmes Justice

Note That this warrant was granted forth on purpose to hinder and forbid the Proprietors and Purchasers of the Nanhiganset to meet together to consider and advise together of their private concernements in the Nanhiganset Countrey, when at the same time They had a private meeting with many persons about the same Concernes, to wch they had no right nor legall purchase

Endorsed: — "March 16th 1695
Frans Brindleys Memo
About the Mortgage Lands
in the Narragansetts."

LETTER OF FRANCIS BRINLEY TO COL. FRANCIS NICHOLSON.

NEWPT. 4th of Novembr 1709.

Honourable S

Understanding yor Honors intention for a suddaine departure from Boston, I made bould in verry great haste to draw up a few lines relating to the setling the nanhiganset Bay and Countrey, called by that name, and the severall governments there existed from the beginning to this day: untill the Charter granted to them from King Charles the Second, they never had any government before, but what they set up

among themselvess, and exercised all authority thereby as largely and amply even to death itself, as if they had the most legal and warrantable power in the universe. they raised verry great taxes of late years without any grounds for it till this present expedition, and no good acco! given to content how it is Laid out and have no power by their Charter granted to raise money. It is a Quaker mob Government. The meanest sort rule their betters. I much question whether two persons in the ruling part of their government can write true English, or frame a writeing in any methodical way. I know them all well and know their abilities. some of our highest rank in authority cannot write and some in authority cannot read. Wee have now in our town of Newport three Justices (viz.) of three several trades, a shoomaker a cooper and a carpenter and each of them is a Captaine of a company and the cooper is our Gener!! treasurer. Wee lie under great greivances and pressures and it is verry hard upon us That wee can have no remedy. wee are governed by Persons that understand nothing of Law, and if they know it they would not walk by it.

I take the bouldness to acquaint Yo! Hon! with those our greavances at large; if Your hon! could be instrumentall to place us under some other government, the particulars of our greivencess, and their misuse of government would appeare, and would be the most ready and effectuall way and meanes, to compose our diffirences and settle our Lands according to law and justice, without that vast charge of sending particular cases for England, especially concerning our lands, wch aboundance of poor persons can never attaine too, neither can it by writeing be made Intelligable to forainers (as I may call them) that know not our countrey nor the manner nor the method of our living and purchasing our lands. I could exceedingly rejoyce if your hon^r^ could unite us under a government whereof You were supreme next under her maj^tie^. then, the differences in point of our lands would soone be issued by an

impartiall Judicature. Now our Judges are parties in the case against us. by them wee must be tried or appeale to England. I crave pardon of your honour for my presumtion to trouble you wth my abrupt lines. It is all the hopes I have by Your Honour's meanes to have a release of our slavery and Ill treatement, that we may enjoy the liberties and privilidges of Englishmen, our laws (so called) such as our rulers pleased to send, were sent to the Lord Justices of England in King Williams reigne, and also another copy delivered to the Earle of Bellamount, and I verry well remember the Lords Justices approved not of them. I am verry desirous of seeing a Just good government settled here, before I depart this life and that my posterity might quietly and peaceably possess and enjoy what I by my industry have gotten in this wilderness countrey. I bless God that sent you hither so opportunely for our releifs (tho upon another occasion) Your honour being knowing to most of these matters now laid before you. I am

Sr yor Hon^{r} most humble serv^{t}.

FRANCIS BRINLEY.

BRITISH STATE PAPERS RELATING TO RHODE ISLAND, 1678–1687.

THE British government has brought out another volume of its invaluable *Calendar of State Papers, Colonial Series, America and West Indies*, edited by Hon. John W. Fortescue. The new volume extends from February 1685 to the end of the year 1688, and includes also some things of earlier date, discovered since the earlier volumes were printed. More than two thousand papers, preserved in the Public Record Office and dating from these three eventful years of colonial history, are here printed or, most often, summarized. Among these are many documents relating to the history of Rhode

Island. Most of them have been printed before, and these we leave unmentioned. But there are a score which, after diligent search, appear never to have been printed hitherto, and which are of sufficient interest to make it desirable to lay them, in a somewhat abridged form, before the readers of this journal. For the benefit of those who may wish to pursue further the examination of the papers, the number by which each is designated in the *Calendar* is prefixed to the paragraph describing it, while its designation by volume and number at the Record Office is retained at the end. The papers are here presented in their chronological order. That which comes first is dated by Mr. Fortescue 1676, conjecturally. It is obviously of the year 1678, and is a summary of an important document, hitherto known, as Mr. Doyle, we believe correctly, says[1], only through the reply made by Stoughton and Bulkeley on July 30, 1678. The second, to which Mr. Fortescue assigns no date, must be of about the year 1680, since Thomas Savage came to New England in 1635.[2] The other documents speak for themselves.

No. 2053. 1678. Petition of Randall Holden and John Green, on behalf of the town of Warwick, Rhode Island, to the King. We have lived in Warwick thirty-five years. Before we were settled in Warwick misunderstandings arose between us and Massachusetts in matters of religion. Though this land is outside their patent, we were suddenly seized by soldiers and tried for our lives without jury or accusers. We were then imprisoned for half a year with our legs in irons, and forced to work for our subsistence, then we were banished, and all our goods and cattle to the value of 4,000*l.*, seized and sold for their benefit. And all this because, although outside their jurisdiction, we stuck to the doctrines

[1] *Puritan Colonies*, II. 204, note 3.
[2] See also Arnold, I. 462.

taught us in our youth by the Church of England. In 1644 we came to England to complain to King Charles the First, but the troubles prevented our obtaining any help. Then in 1664 you sent out your Commissioners to settle the boundaries, but owing to the perversity of Massachusetts and an unfortunate accident, nothing came of it. In 1673 came the Indian war, which came heavy upon us, and led to the burning of Warwick. This danger ended, there arose new internal dissensions, owing to the claims of Connecticut to the Narragansett country. In 1674 William Harris of Patuxet also preferred claims. The case was heard by Commissioners from Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New Plymouth, who gave damages against us. We then appealed to you for reversal of the Commissioners' sentence, but none was granted, which has occasioned us to come over in our old age to ask for justice and settlement of these distractions. *Signed.* 2 pp. [*Col. Papers*, Vol. LXIV., No. 92.]

No. 2050. 1680. Petition of Thomas Savage of Boston, to the King. Has resided in New England about forty-four years. With William Coddington, late of Rhode Island, and eighty others, purchased of Miantonomy, the Chief Sachem of the Narragansett country, what was formerly called Aqueedneeke, but now Rhode Island. Their rights were admitted by the Indians, by an instrument in writing, dated 7 March, 1638-9. They associated themselves into a form of government. It was afterward agreed that every purchaser should have a home lot of about eight acres, and the undivided land was to continue to the use of the first purchasers and others whom they should think fit to admit. He has paid his purchase-money, and has had a home lot in a tract in Portsmouth called Savage's Lot, but is kept out of his proportion of the undivided lands. As no impartial courts have been established there, but all are constrained to implead their adversaries in their own courts, where themselves are judges

and jurors, he prays that royal letters may be granted to some gentlemen of the neighboring colonies, to hear and finally determine the matter. *Signed* by Thomas Savage. [*Col. Papers*, Vol. LXIV., No. 89.]

No. 278. July 15, 1685. Address of the Proprietors and Inhabitants of the Narragansett Country to the King. Congratulations, and information that, in spite of adverse circumstances, the proclamation of his accession was made with all possible solemnity. *Signed*, S. Bradstreet, J. Winthrop, Richard Smith, and seven more "on behalf of many others." 1 p. *Endorsed:* "Recd 15 July, 1685." [*Col. Papers*, Vol. LVI., No. 10.]

No. 632. April 20, 1686. Journal of Lords of Trade and Plantations. The Lords agreed to move the King for the issue of writs of *quo warranto* against Maryland, Connecticut, and Rhode Island, East and West Jersey, and Delaware. [See *Col. Entry Bks.*, Vol. LII., p. 109, and Vol. XCVII., pp. 232, 233.]

No. 645. April 30, 1686. Order of the King in Council, for the prosecution of writs of *quo warranto* against the patents of Maryland, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and East and West Jersey. [*Col. Entry Bk.*, Vol. XCVII., pp. 233, 234.]

No. 749. July 3, 1686. [Rhode Island.] Walter Newbery to George Whitehead. Ten days ago a writ of *quo warranto* against our charter arrived. We are all agreed not to defend it, but to submit to the King's pleasure, for which the enclosed address has been prepared. *Extract. Copy.* ½ p [*Col. Papers*, Vol. LVII., No. 115.]

No. 808. Aug. 5, 1686. [Warwick.] John Greene to Governor Dongan. I have been nominated messenger by the Governor and Council. I wished to have another joined with me, but this has been defeated by some evil-minded persons,

who would bring us under Massachusetts. There will be scrawls enough gathered from one. To-morrow the Governor and Council meet again to settle the question finally, and if it be decided that I do go for the voyage, I hope to be ready to sail in three weeks. Thank you for your great respect shown to our poor, despised colony. *Signed*, John Greene. *Holograph.* 1 p. *Endorsed:* "Recd. 9 May 87, from Colonel Dongan." [*Col. Papers*, Vol. LVIII., No. 24.]

No. 819. Aug. 21, 1686. [Rhode Island.] Address of Randall Holden to the King. Recounts the history of the dispute over the Narragansett Country. Edward Cranfield claimed to have a commission to hold a court in the country. Many of his associates styled themselves the proprietors of the Narragansett Country. They were met by a prohibition, and departed without any further proceedings. Since Joseph Dudley was made President, they have unsurped the government of the Province, and a committee, consisting of Elisha Hutchinson and John Saffin of Boston, is formed to dispose of those lands, thus turning your Majesty's province to their private advantage and to your great loss, unless some disinterested person be appointed to dispose of them. I am ready to give the best intelligence I can. *Signed*, Randall Howldon. *Large sheet, closely written. Endorsed:* "Presented at Committee, 19 Jan. 1686–7." [*Col. Papers*, Vol. LVIII., No. 30.]

No. 829. Aug. 25, 1686. Address of the Quakers of Rhode Island to the King. We and our predecessors in this country have been here near forty-nine years, having left Boston whence we were driven by those who pretend to be refined Christians. We understand that the authorities, with the free consent of most of the inhabitants, have laid themselves at your feet on receiving the writ of *quo warranto* against the Charter. We beg that even if the government be altered, we may enjoy the religious indulgence granted by

the Charter and the indulgence in the matter of oaths, that our solemn promise may pass instead of an oath, and that we may be excused from bearing arms. *Signed*, on behalf of the Quakers, John Easton, Dan. Gould, Edward Thurston, Giles Slocum, John Rodman, John Easton, jun. 3¼ pp. [*Col. Papers*, Vol. LVIII., No. 36.]

No. 925. [Oct. 21,] 1686. The President and Council of New England to the Lords of Trade and Plantations. Queries respecting trade will be answered by a report of local merchants. The number of ports of entry has been reduced in order to check frauds in prohibited trade. Several ships seized and condemned. Officers and courts for the suppression of disorders were established in the Narragansett Country on June 23. A militia is also arranged. Three towns are laid out, and named Rochester, Feversham, and Dedford. The proprietors have met the people of Warwick, and suggested referring the question of boundaries to such indifferent persons as the President and the Governor of Rhode Island should appoint. The men of Warwick refuse these proposals. The governments of Rhode Island and Connecticut are preparing addresses to the King respecting the writs of *quo warranto* served upon them. We recommend that they be united under the same government, or, at least, that a free commerce be continued. They depend upon us for supplies and manufactures of all kinds, so that to divide them from us to lay restraint on trade would be ruinous to all. *Signed*, For the President and Council, Joseph Dudley. 3½ closely written pages. *Endorsed:* "Recd. 21 Oct. Read 23 Oct. 1686." [*Col. Papers*, Vol. LVIII., No. 80, and *Col. Entry Bk.*, Vol. LXI., pp. 335–339.]

No. 2156. Nov. 18, 1686. Minutes of Council for New England. Order for enforcing the law against licensed public-houses that refuse to pay their subscriptions to the King's receiver. Order for payment of £50 to Edmund

Randolph for extraordinary service, £25 to the Deputy-President for his pains as Judge of the Court of Pleas, and £25 to Richard Wharton for his services in the Narragansett Country. [*Col. Entry Bk.*, Vol. LXIV., pp. 87–89.]

No. 2158. Nov. 23, 1686. Minutes of Council of New England. Order for allowance of one shilling in the pound and of a salary of £75 to Giles Dyer, Deputy-Collector of the King's customs, for payment of £10 to the Treasurer for extraordinary services, and for payment of £30 to Richard Smith to be employed in the service of the Narragansett Country. [*Col. Entry Bk.*, Vol. LXIV., p. 90.]

No. 1093. Jan. 3, 1687. Minutes of Council of New England. Orders for a bill to be prepared for raising a revenue, and for the duties on imported liquors in Rhode Island, New Plymouth, Providence, and King's province to be the same as in New England. A Committee appointed to revise and collect the laws for the new government.

No. 1102. Jan. 19, 1687. Journal of Lords of Trade and Plantations. Letter from Randall Holden on behalf of Rhode Island read. The Lords remark that provision is made for the matter in Sir Edmund Andros's instructions. [*Col. Entry Bk.*, Vol. CIX., pp. 44-49.]

No. 1231. April 30, 1687. [Whitehall.] Order of the King in Council. That the Attorney-General cause the proprietors of Maryland and the Colonies of Connecticut and Rhode Island to be prosecuted on the writs of *quo warranto* ordered on 10 and 17 July last. [*Col. Entry Bk.*, Vol. LII., p. 109.]

No. 1275. May 28, 1687. [Hampton Court.] Order of the King in Council, for the prosecution of the *quo warranto* issued against Maryland, Connecticut, and Rhode Island. [*Col. Entry Bks.*, Vol. LII., p. 110, and Vol. XCVII., p. 240.]

No. 1414, v. Aug. 31, 1687. Report of Sir Edmund Andros on the claims to the Narragansett Country. All claims ordered presented on 22 February last. Some based on votes of the Assembly of Massachusetts; Connecticut based hers on conquest; others on pretended purchase from the Indians; others on a law of Rhode Island; while certain others, calling themselves proprietors, are represented by Richard Wharton, Elisha Hutchinson, and John Saffin. Their claims based on: (1) Grant of 1659 by Coginaquon, Sachem of the Narragansett Country, to John Winthrop and others; (2) A second grant by the same sachem; (3) A third grant of 1660 from other sachems, on condition of release from a debt of 600 fathoms of wampum peage. This third grant extorted by force. Debt fictitious. No settlement or improvement on first grant. Lands of second grant settled and improved. As regards the King's title, the country was never granted nor said to be granted since the general grant of all these northern parts by King James the First, until inserted in 14 Car. II. in the Charter granted to Connecticut. The country was shortly afterwards granted to Rhode Island, and the grant to Connecticut cancelled. In 1664 the claims of the pretended proprietors were disallowed. They produce no new title. I gave Richard Wharton, however, about seventeen hundred acres, which he had improved, reserving a small quit rent. Others have applied for confirmation of their lands, and for fresh grants. I await the King's instructions, when the land can be patented and settled, and all will be quiet. *Signed*, E. Andros. Four large sheets. *Endorsed:* "Read 31 October 87." Entered in *Col. Entry Bk.*, Vol. LXII., pp. 3-8.

No. 1415. Aug. 31, 1687. Minutes of Council of New England. John Greene's claim of travelling expenses referred to the Council of Rhode Island for examination. Other matters, not relating to Rhode Island. [*Col. Entry Bk.*, Vol. LXIV., pp. 138, 139.]

No. 1496. Oct. 31, 1687. Journal of Lords of Trade and Plantations. Sir Edmund Andros's letter of 31 August read (see No. 1414, above). Agreed to lay the proposals as to revenue before the King. The reports on the Narragansett Country and Pejebscot were referred to the Attorney-General. Memorandum of documents sent and received. [*Col. Entry Bk.*, Vol. CIX., pp. 108-111.]

THE ADJUSTMENT OF RHODE ISLAND INTO THE UNION IN 1790.

A VAST amount of attention has been bestowed on the history of the ratification of the Federal Constitution by Rhode Island; almost none at all upon the history of the events immediately ensuing in her history, the process by which she became adjusted into the Union. Historical students have proceeded as if, once Rhode Island had agreed to enter the Union, nothing more remained to be done, and her constitutional history came to an end, not to recommence until the times just before the Dorr War. No doubt the main question was settled, a question whose importance far transcended that of any questions which remained. Yet there is a considerable degree of interest in the minor settlements and adjustments which ensued. This is true in all the states. A complete adjustment into the Union could not be effected all at once. Not only did friction between the federal government and the states occur here and there during a long period, but the very terms of the Constitution, transferring to the federal government many powers which hitherto had belonged to the states, gave a violent wrench to the systems which the states had established, and produced difficulties and required readjustments which it is now difficult for the mind to realize. An instance is the transfer of the power to impose customs duties from the state governments to that of the

Union; a transfer which at one blow deprived most states of one of their chief sources of revenue.

The following documents, chiefly derived from the Theodore Foster Papers, possessed by the Society, will help to carry Rhode Island history a little way into this somewhat neglected period, though it be no farther than to the end of the year 1790. The first two letters exhibit the anxiety of Federalist senators in Congress for reinforcements from Rhode Island. Foster having been elected senator, the remaining letters are mostly written to him while at New York in attendance upon the sessions of the Senate, by various friends in Rhode Island.

It will be seen that the federal measure which most excited the attention of Rhode Island politicians in the summer of 1790 was Hamilton's project for the assumption of state debts by the federal government. In his famous and comprehensive funding scheme he had included a provision whereby the state debts were to be assumed. This proposal had been, by a close vote, rejected in the House, which, at the time when Rhode Island joined the Union, was just about to pass a funding act not including the state debts.[1] Meantime the plan for the location of the federal capital had met with difficulty, owing to the rival interests of Pennsylvania and Virginia. Hamilton made use of Jefferson's influence to arrange a compromise, by which, in return for votes in favor of assumption, the capital, after ten years at Philadelphia, was to be permanently located on the Potomac. Then the Senate, on July 16, inserted in the Funding Bill a provision for assuming certain specified amounts in the certificates of the debts of the several states. The amount fixed upon for Rhode Island was only $200,000, out of a total of $21,500,000 assumed, and Senators Foster and Stanton voted against the bill on its final passage[2]. But it passed both houses, and

[1] *House Journal*, June 2.

[2] *Journals of the Senate and House*, May - July.

became law August 4, 1790. The other measures spoken of in the letters require no explanation at this point; but, reverting to the subject of Rhode Island's adjustment into the Union, a few words may be said concerning those federal laws which had a part in effecting that adjustment.

Four acts were passed by the First Congress, at their second session, after Rhode Island's ratification of the Constitution, which may be regarded, in whole or in part, as consequences or corollaries of that event, and as steps in the process of union. First, an act of June 14, 1790, (Chap. XIX.), extended over Rhode Island the provisions of the Tariff Act of July 4, 1789, the Tonnage Act of July 20, the act to regulate the collection of customs and tonnage duties passed July 31, and the registry act of September 1, 1789. It provided for two customs districts and for two ports of entry, Newport and Providence, with a collector, naval officer and surveyor at each. There were also to be surveyors at the seven ports of delivery, one in the latter district, at Pawtuxet, and five in the former, at North Kingstown, East Greenwich, Westerly, Bristol and Warren,—the last named official serving the two ports of Warren and Barrington. Secondly, an act of June 23, 1790, (Chap. XXI.), brought Rhode Island within the scope of the Judiciary Act of September 24, 1789, and established there a United States district court, a district judge, and regular sessions of the circuit court. Thirdly, an act of July 5, 1790, (Chap. XXV.), extended over Rhode Island the Federal Census Act of March 1, 1790, and assigned to the marshal of the district court the munificent salary of one hundred dollars for making the enumeration. The fourth act alluded to, approved August 11, 1790, (Chap. XLIII.), related to the River Machine Company, which is the subject of several of the following letters. The General Assembly had incorporated that company in January, 1790, for the purpose of dredging the Providence River and improving its navigation, and, in order that

it might reimburse its expenditure of one thousand dollars in constructing "a Machine called a Mud-Engine," had provided that the collector of the port of Providence should levy a duty of two cents per ton on every vessel of over sixty tons (except those laden with wood and lumber) arriving in the port, and should pay this over to the treasurer of the company.[1] This privilege, which was to last twenty years, was now found to conflict with the acts of Congress respecting tonnage duties. Accordingly Congress, by act of August 11, 1790, consented that the provisions respecting tonnage duties, contained in the state act incorporating the River Machine Company, should remain in force until January 10, 1791; subsequent acts[2] prolonged their operation till June 1, 1796.

No small part of the work of reorganization and adjustment resulting from Rhode Island's entrance into the Union,— and certainly no small part of the friction produced by that process,— arose from the necessity of filling the offices called into existence by the above-mentioned acts of Congress. President Washington had made his nominations to consular offices on June 4, and Rhode Island was naturally not "recognized" in this particular. The questions related solely to appointments to office within the state. It was Washington's general practice to regard only the qualifications and personal merits of the applicants, their services during the Revolutionary War, and in certain cases the fact that a candidate had been holding an analogous office under the state government. In Rhode Island, however (and perhaps also in New York), he seems to have taken into account considerations of party politics also. He did not wish to appoint to office under the Constitution men who had opposed its ratification.

Rhode Island seems to have contained, in proportion to population, about as many office-seekers in General Washing-

[1] *Acts and Resolves* for January session, 1790.
[2] Acts of January 10, 1791, and March 19, 1792.

ton's administration as in that of President McKinley. Several of the following letters relate to the subject. A few of the applications for office in Rhode Island addressed to President Washington have been printed in an excellent article on "Office-Seeking during Washington's Administration" by Mr. Gaillard Hunt, an official of the Department of State.[1] Mr. Hunt prints, for instance, a letter from Governor Collins, who, explaining that he had given the casting vote for calling the final convention and had lost his office for doing so, asked to be made collector of the port of Newport; also one from John Brown and John Francis, warning Washington against the Anti-federalists and suggesting a list of proper persons for customs appointments; and a letter of Judge Henry Marchant to Secretary Hamilton respecting appointments in 1793.

There is so much curious matter in these applications for office in Washington's administration that Mr. Hunt has prepared a calendar of them, from proof-sheets of which, extending from A to G, we have been permitted by his kindness to extract the portions relating to Rhode Islanders. These summaries we print after the letters derived from the Foster Papers. They are arranged in alphabetical order of the names. We hope to be able at a later time to print the remaining portions of the alphabet from this calendar, of which immediate publication is not expected.

It may be convenient that the appointments actually made by President Washington should be named, and also the incumbents of the analogous offices in the state organization now superseded. At the time when the Federal Constitution went into effect in Rhode Island, Ebenezer Thompson was collector of the port of Providence, Theodore Foster naval officer, and William Tyler surveyor. At Newport, John Wanton was collector, Gideon Wanton naval officer, and Edward Thurston surveyor. The other surveyors were: at Pawtuxet, Zachariah Rhodes; at East Greenwich, Job Com-

[1] *American Historical Review*, I. 270-283.

stock; at North Kingstown, Robert Eldred; at Pawcatuck River (Westerly), Thomas Brand; at Bristol, Samuel Bosworth; at Warren and Barrington, Samuel Miller.[1] Washington on June 14 nominated William Ellery for collector at Newport, Robert Crooke for naval officer, Daniel Lyman for surveyor; for Providence, Jeremiah Olney for collector, Theodore Foster for naval officer, William Barton for surveyor. These nominations were, under suspension of the rules, confirmed the same day, that the system might go at once into operation. A few days later, when it appeared that Foster had been elected a senator from Rhode Island, Ebenezer Thompson, the former collector, was made naval officer in his place. The other surveyors nominated were: John Anthony Aborn for Pawtuxet; Job Comstock for East Greenwich; Daniel Eldridge Updike for North Kingstown; George Stillman for Pawcatuck River; Samuel Bosworth for Bristol; and Nathaniel Phillips for Warren and Barrington. These nominations (including Thompson's) were not made until July 2, a week after the arrival of Senators Foster and Stanton at the seat of government. Some comparison of these dates and names with those connected with the letters summarized in Mr. Hunt's calendar and with the letters here printed will make tolerably clear whatever of politics there was in these nominations. Suffice it to say that all of them were immediately confirmed except that of Updike, which, at first "postponed for want of information," was confirmed a month later. Aborn and Comstock declining their appointments, Zachariah Rhodes and Thomas Arnold were appointed in their places. For the judicial appointments, Henry Marchant was made district judge, William Channing district attorney, and William Peck marshal. Jabez Bowen was made commissioner of loans.[2]

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[1] *Acts and Resolves*, May session.

[2] *Executive Journal of the Senate*, I. 51-57. See also Updike's *Memoirs of the R. I. Bar*, pp. 89, 101.

FROM THEODORE SEDGWICK.[1]

NEW YORK 1. June 1790.

Dear Sir,

I have had the pleasure to receive your favor of 21st of may.

You will now please to accept my most cordial congratulations on the happy result of your convention. Every true american will partake in your joy.—

Permit me, Sir, to suggest the great importance of having your State represented in Senate at as early a period as may be. To the commercial States in general, and to your's which is peculiarly so in particular, the funding the debt, and thereby providing a medium of commerce, is immensely important. It is not improbable that this consideration may be a foundation of opposition in some parts of the united States. The assumption is so indispensible a part of the funding system that I have no apprehension that any man who can discern the obvious interests of Rhode Island will oppose it; I shall therefore most cordially welcome your Senators here. I am with great regard, Dear Sir

Your most obedt Servt

THEODORE SEDGWICK

Mr. Foster,

[Addressed]:

Theodore Foster Esqr

Providence

R. Island

[1] Theodore Sedgwick (1746–1813) was a member of Congress from Massachusetts, and afterward Speaker. In the session of June 1 the Senate received a message from the President stating that he had received official information of the accession of Rhode Island. *Senate Journal*, I. 148.

FROM CALEB STRONG.[1]

New York June 3d 1790.

Dear Sir

I have this moment recd your letter of the 29th of may. We had before the very agreeable News of the Adoption of the Constitution by your State and I am happy to be informed of the Probability that the State will be represented in the Senate in a very short Time, and I hope and trust the Persons chosen will be men of enlightened Minds and liberal Policy. Should they be of a different Character they may oppose an Assumption of the State Debts which to me appears necessary to the Peace and Happiness of this Country.

The House a few Days since sent us a Resolve that the next Session of Congress should be holden at Philadelphia. previous to this a Bill had been brought into the Senate to fix the permanent Residence of Congress. The Bill and Resolve are both committed in the Senate and the Committee will probably report to morrow or on Monday. An Effort will be made to fix the permanent Residence on the Potomack. you will undoubtedly wish that your State may be represented when this Question is settled. if they are the Senators must be here soon. I am Sir with Esteem and Regard your most obedt Servt. CALEB STRONG.

[Addressed]: The Honble Theodore Foster Esqr.[2]
Providence

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[1] Senator from Massachusetts, and afterward governor.

[2] An act providing for the election of senators and a representative to represent the state in Congress was passed at the June Session of the General Assembly. It provided that senators should be chosen by ballot by the General Assembly sitting in grand committee, and that the representative should be chosen according to the general election law of the state, by the freemen in town-meetings legally assembled, on the last Tuesday of the next August. At this same session Theodore Foster of Providence and Joseph Stanton of Charlestown were chosen as senators. The *Providence Gazette* of June 19, after mentioning these elections, says, "Mr. Foster, we learn, proceeds for the Seat of General Government this Day, and Mr. Stanton on Monday next," the 21st. They took their seats in the Senate on June 25. *Senate Journal*, I. 166. The representative chosen was Benjamin Bourne.

FROM WELCOME ARNOLD.[1]

PROVIDENCE, July 12th 1790

Undoubtedly you have been apprised of an Act of the Legislature of this State having some time since passed for incorporating Sundry of the Citizens of this State by the name of the "River Machine Company" for the purpose of rendering the River leading to Providence more navigable. The General Assembly convinced of the importance and utility of the objects of the Association were pleased to grant a duty on tonnage of Vessels of specified burthens for the carrying into effect the purposes of the Company. The proceedings of the Legislature referrd to we have the honor herewith to enclose. By the Accession of this State to the Union the company are deprived of the benifit of the tonnage duty granted by our Legislature, The exclusive right of levying such duties being vested by the constitution in the Legislature of the United States; as the completion of the objects of the aforementioned Association are absolutely necessary to the safe navigation of this River and as those objects cannot be effected without a continuance of the Tonnage levied by the Legislature of this State, the Proprietors of the Machine have instructed me to write you on the subject and to solicit your assistance in the procurement of an Act of Congress for the Imposing of similar duties of Tonnage to those which were granted them by our Gen! Assembly I have to acquaint you that the Machine is compleated and now actually employed in deepening the Channel; but unless the company shall receive some aid from the Public, the objects of their association will become entirely frustrated. having no doubt of your being fully convinced that the object of our present Application is highly Interesting to the trade and Navigation of the United States as well as to that of this State in particular I rest

[1] President of the River Machine Company.

assured of your immediate and Most effectual effort to obtain an Act of Congress for a continuance of the Tonnage formerly granted by the Legislature of this State and to be in like manner appropriated to Compleat the purposes of the General Assembly in passing the afores^{d} Act for incorporating the company. The cost of the Machine far exceeded the expectations of the company, the expence of the materials and erecting the Machine Amounts to twelve Hundred dollars and the money collected in Virtue of the Act of Assembly previous to our accession is only sixty dollars, the daily expence of working the Machine is four dollars exclusive of wear and tear.

It is needless to suggest that in the Act which Congress may pass on the subject it will be proper that the collection of the duty should be vested in the Collector of this District.

In behalf of the Providence River Machine Company.

I have the Honor to be with Great Respect and Esteem Gentlemen Yr mo. Obedient and very Hhb Servt

WELCOME ARNOLD, Presid^{t}

[Addressed]: Honble Jos. Stanton and Theodore Foster Esq^{rs}

FROM ARTHUR FENNER.[1]

PROVIDENCE July 17 1790

Dear Brother. I rec^{d} your two letters with the Newspapers and am much Obliged by the information through the Channel of your Letters and Papers. I am very sorry that you

[1] Governor of Rhode Island from 1790 to 1805, and brother-in-law of Senator Foster.

was so unfortunate in the *Lottery*[1] however I shall exert my little influence to get you re-elected. it is said that J. Hazard has a mind to try again. it will be in vain in my opinion. your chance I think to be good. The Representative is not fully settled yet. Holden, Comstock and Arnold are talked of by the Majority. I am informed that J Bowen intends to try his Luck. The Newport Gentlemen say they have no Person in View to serve in that Capacity. if that is really so there will be no difficulty in getting in one of the Majority, And in my opinion, J. Comstock stands the foremost or in other words the most likely to succeed [2]

The Congress is looked upon generally as the minority looked upon our general Assembly. you will see by some of the Boston and Connecticut Papers that they are uneasy. The removeal from New York is considered here as a Partial and ungrateful *Act* such as [a] Body like Congress ought Not to know. You mentioned in your letter that you intended to lay a plan before the Senate respecting the Public Debt in which you expected considerable support. Permit me to Caution you respecting the matter. The motions made are generally known by whom made. let your plan be such as will have a tendency to lessen the Value of the Public Sureties and it will answer, but even if it will have that effect in the End, and at the first View it appears to Establish them, it will render you unpopular. You must be very Cautious how you proceed. if you could be the means of giving the secureties an Irish Hoist it will help you in your re-election. I never see the Minority so much Cast down as they now appear to be. They are very complesant and Free, wish to lay all party a side &c &c. you know them — be you not deceived by them if they should correspond with you by Letter. The

[1] When Foster and Stanton drew lots for the terms of two, four and six years by means of which the constitutional rotation in the Senate was begun, Stanton drew the four-year term and Foster the two-year term, which expired March 4, 1791.

[2] Benjamin Bourne was chosen.

Appointment of our worthy Friend Thompson has given some of the Minority (I mean those who used to run goods) a Violent Shock. They are disappointed. if Peck had been appointed in my Oppinion the Revenue would not have been worth to Congress so much as it is now by thousands of Dollars. The appointment is a perfect Check upon their designs and has put them out more than any thing that has taken place. I am so much unwell that I cannot attend half my time to my Buisiness. I am in hopes of getting beter so that I can secure your Election. my efforts shall not be wanting but it is a Lottery almost you know, but I have heretofore been rather fortunate than otherways in those Lotteries. Please to give my love to your worthy Colleague and inform him, I rec^{d} his Letter and shall answer it as soon as I have any thing that I can communicate. I have nothing now but what I have communicated to you which you can communicate to him or that of it which you please. he wished to know how we were going on in the Representative way.

Your Family, Mine and all our Friends are well. You must excuse this broken letter as I have not time to enter into a proper Chain of the Business I wish to communicate, have therefore only given hints. I shall in my next perhaps attend to the Substance

A. FENNER.

P. S. This was my Rough draught but the Post is waiting therefore I cannot copy it. excuse imperfections

A. F.

FROM ARTHUR FENNER.

PROVIDENCE July 17 1790

Dear Brother — I had made a rough draft of a short letter to you before I rec^{d} yours of the 14th the post left providence before I finished it. you will see by that my sentiments

respecting the Motion you mention. I have inclosed that letter for want of time to Copy it. Your letter of the 14th contains matters of Consequence too great to answer immediately. You are sensible of the Situation of this State or the People. The assumption will alarm them very much and how far it will do for you to proceed in that matter I am at present at a Loss. Your standing requires great caution. it is my opinion at present that you had better wave every matter that can be waved and not very essentially effect the Interest of the State. it appears to me however that it will be to the Interest of the State if the Assumption is finally carried for the State to take a share in the matter as most certainly we shall pay our proportion of the other State demands out of the Monies arising from our Revenue etcet., but as long as you can postpone the matter do it by all means. I shall take oppertunities to consult our Friends in the Country and communicate to you their sentiments as soon as possible. This is post morning and I cannot write you but a short sketch of my mind. I recd your letter on sunday evening and have been so much engaged in my Farming Buisiness that I could not attend to write you fully but will attend to the subject of your letter and give you an Answer fully as soon as I have consulted Friends.

I want you to write a few lines to some of our country friends — among the rest to Ray Sands of new Shoreham. it will please him. he intends to be a Deputy the next choice.[1]

I seem at present strong in the Faith that you will be re-elected but as I mentioned in my other letter here inclosed it is a Lottery. perhaps you will be here timely. if you come home before the Sitting of the Assembly it may help some. I suppose the choice can be had or made at September Sessions and perhaps it may be the best to make it then.

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[1] In the General Assembly of 1790 and also of 1791 New Shoreham was represented by *John* Sands.

This letter you must also excuse. it is Wrote as fast as I can talk almost and have not time to copy it —

your Brother

A. FENNER.

[Addressed]: Honb[l] Theo Foster Esq
New York.

[Endorsed]: Letter from Governor Fenner Dated July 17th 1790. Rec[d] from the Post Office Saturday Evening July 24th 1790. Delivered to Me by the Honorable Abiel Foster Esq.

FROM EBENEZER THOMPSON.[1]

PROVIDENCE, July 17, 1790.

Dear Sir

My last was by the post which hope is safe to hand, Since which have had the pleasure of perusing your last letter to the Governor. I cannot see the propriety of the Senates apportionment of the several sums to be assum'd of the State Debts. Massachusetts they say shall be 4,000,000 Dollars. in the same proportion Rhode Island should be 500,000. New York is 1,600,000 Dollars and by the best account they do not at present owe half the sum, and I understand Maryland is in the same predicament. most of the other States except Rhode Island is apportioned nearly in proportion to former requisitions of the Old congress. I have not had any opportunity to talk in particular of this matter with the governor: but I think in case the State Debts are assum'd in whole or in part by the General Government, which I hope will not be done, it will be most prudent to Insist that this State shall be put nearly on the same footing with regard to the money

[1] Naval officer (formerly collector) of Providence, and recently elected president of the town council (*Gazette* of June 12).

that may be loaned from its inhabitants holding State Evidences as Massachusetts and the other States (New Hampshire an exception) which will make our State full 500,000 Dollars. but in any instance it will be very impolitic for our Senators to Vote for the assumption: on the contrary to oppose it in all its Stages. from what principles the committe of Senate apportioned to our State only 200,000 Dollars, I cannot Devine nor do I see what led them to the particular sums as express'd in the report. it could not be from Estimate of the Debt due from each State to individuals if so Conneticutt and some other States would have been much larger sums. Since writing the above I have had some conversation with the governor and his Sentiments on the aforegoing appeared to be nearly Similar with my own

I am Dear Sir with Sentiments of high
Regard and Esteem

Your most Obd^{t} Hum$^{l.}$ Servant

EBENEZ^{R} THOMPSON

[Addressed]: Honb^{le} Theodore Foster Esquire

New York

FROM NICHOLAS BROWN.

PROVID: — Late Munday Night, the 26th

Dear Sir of July 1790.

As You was so friendly as to Mention to me before you Went from this Town that you Should be glad to here from your Old Friend Occationally I now take pen in hand Just to shew You my Opinion in Sum late proceedings of Congress, which if not Attended to may prove Injurious to your Pollittical Charractor here by way of Neglect or Inattention to the

Interest of this State. It is in This. I observe in the N York papers is Mentioned the Report of a Com^te^ of the Sennett for the Sum each State is to have Assum'd of there Debts Sum of which seems more and Sum less Tha[n] what will be There due proportions of Debts. What method that Com^te^ went upon is yet Unknown here without You have Wrote the reason to sum of your friends which have not Communicated it. I am well acquainted with your Situation as to the Assumption, but You must Note that I go upon the Supposition that the assumption *will* take place at all events and Tho' You may Consider Yourself Oblig'^d^ to Oppose it in every Stage Nevertheless this State who will probably pay by Impost &c at least as much, and I doubt not but more than her proportion into the Publick Chest and it was well known by the former Congress that this State Loand more money to Congress than Any State in the Union and had kept up there full Quota and Will be found to have advanc'd the full propor^n^ According to there Bigness. This I have Often and very lately been told by Our Members of the former Congress has ben publickly Asserted on the floor of Congress and Could not be denied. but suppose we had done but little or Nothing as was the case of Sum States why should not this State have her full proportion of the Sum Assum'd, as We must and Shall raise within this State Our proportion of the Millions that Other States will have Assum'd. This is a Matter that does not Affect my Interest any farther than as a single Member that Might Suffer In proportion of What The State may Suffer by not hav^g^ our propor^n^ with Other States, As the Overplus Sum That may not be subscribed for is to be paid into the State Treasury, and There to draw Interest till the State Aud^ts^ are Settled with Congress, for we are morrally Sure this State will have a *Grait* Balance due to her, therefore as it may be a length of Time, If ever, before those State Acco^ts^ are all clos'd, it is Well known that those who have Carried in there Secureties and taken the

paper mo.ʏ When it was part of the Time as much as 15 for 1, Under par, those persons, Generally, that Now hold the Goverment, will Not long sit and see those who Uniformly refused giving Up there Securities for the paper Money and In Consequence of the Assumption receive the Interest of the Same and principle Secur'd, But will most Certainly have those payments Liquidated according to the Value of the papᵉʳ When recᵈ towards Sᵈ Notes. This has you know ben don for the Invalleads, and will doubtless be Adjusted accordingly, as it is not to be suppos'd But people in Power will do as Well for themselves as for the Invalleads and Those who have Complain'd agᵗ The Laws for forfitting there Secureties, as honestmen Can but Joyn the Majority in doing Justice to the Widow orphans &c so as to give those an equal Chance That Others have by the funding or assuming debts. But in this Case where is the Means that is Necessary to pay of[f] Such Demands if we get no more of the assumption than what will be Subscribd for; for Those Others who may have there Notes Consollidated, There will be Nothing to pay them with till the State receives it in a Balᵉ from the Union. Will not this Cause grait Complaints Agᵗ Those who tamely Sit Still and forget (as may be said) there own States, *who have an eaqual right to there full proportion.* I am told this State is graitly in Debt more than the Assum'd sum for this State, even on the Supposition, that all the Notes taken in for paper moʏ. will ever remain as Dischargᵈ. This is a matter that will be as much Agᵗ my Interest as My proportion of all those Secureties or other debts that may be so Setled, but as An Honest Man and Your friend I mention this matter. I find the people Uneasy at puting the Interest so low and espescially the Indents, and I think Publick Credit will not be fully established by the doings of Congress according as we here they will most likely agree to pay there Debts Contracted in the War. In a late meeting of the mudd massheen Company it was talked over as Exceeding Injurous to said Compʏ if

not Ruinous, not to have Liberty from Congress to Collect moneys from the Navigation to support the working of it to Clear out the Channel according to Its Intention. it is Now all done ready to begin in the Crook, but want of funds prevents. we hope You Will Attend to this Matter and get it done before Congress Rises. We Consider this as an Interesting Matter to the Publick as it will graitly tend to Increase the Trade of this State and Consequently will Increase the Publick Revenue.

Sum Other Things Should have mention'd but Time will not permit. My compliments to Mr. Stanton, and beleave me Most Sincerely Your very esteem'd

Humbl Servt

NICHOS BROWN

[Addressed] : Theadore Foster Esqr.

FROM EBENEZER THOMPSON.

PROVIDENCE, July 27th 1790. —

Dear Sir

The inclosed letters have been wrote some days but no oppertunity offering you will receive them herewith.

Our holders of Publick Securityes of this State's have for sum days past been Clammerous about the Congress not having Assumed our proportion of the State debt. they say that if the states Debts are assumed our Senetors aught to Exart themselves in order to get as large a preportion as possable. in case the Assumtion cannot be avoided I think it best to have our full proportion. Our State in the time of the War maid as great or grater Exartions then aney in the Union and Our Advances will appear to be larger then aney when Ever our State Acct is settled. I can sea no reason why we should not have our full preportion. By all meanes

keep back the Assumtion if possable to the End of this Congress which terminates in march and it will never be dun afterwards. if the Assumtion takes place the Duties must be increased so much that their will be great fear of Clamour from the marcantile Interest.

I am Dr Sir in haest

Your most obd Humb Servt

EBENEZ THOMPSON

[Addressed]: Honble Theodore Foster Esquire

New York

FROM EBENEZER THOMPSON.

PROVIDENCE July 31 1790

Dear Sir

My last was by Capt Curry which hope by this time is to hand, since which there has nothing occurd of any meterial consiquence within the limits of our Circle this way.

The speculators in our State funds appear to be disturbed at congress not having Assumed a larger proportion of our State Debts. they Urge that our Senators should have been ernest for a larger Sum. I think their complaint is nothing more than Parlementtearing and to try if Possable to strengthen themselves in order to get in a senator of their own kidney, but in this I think they must fail. however if their should happen to be any opportunity I would advise to have the Sum increased as much as possable as no injury can arise to the State on that Score.

The Govenor has just Shewn me your letter to him by Godfrey. if their should be an oportunity to accomplish what you hint at, with regard to the office of the Excise without giving up the Naval Office I should like it much and

it will add to the many obligations I am alread under to you and as it is probable that the Sistem of the Excise may make it necessary to have a Number of Under officers in Subbordination it may put in my power to help our Friend Tylor which I should Wish to Do if in my power. I must say that I have never Experienced anything in him but what has been manly and in Charracter. please to present my most respectful Compliments to Genl Stanton and believe me at all times to be with sincerety —

Your Friend and ob^{d} Humble Servt

EBEN. THOMPSON.

[Addressed]: Honble Theodore Foster Esqr.
Member of Congress
New-York

[Endorsed]: Letter from Ebenezer Thompson Esq. Dated July 31st 1790. Rec^{d} by the Hand of Capt John Tillinghast in the Lobby of the Senate Chamber in New York Monday August 9th 1790.

FROM ARTHUR FENNER.

PROVIDENCE 31st July 90.

Dear Brother

I rec^{d} your letter of the 24th Yesterday I am much obliged by the information I thereby re^{d} The assumtion of twenty one Millions of Dollars is not understood by any of us. Some suppose it to be the whole that is intended to be assumed of the State Debts and of those are N Brown J. Bowen &c &c- They complain very much at our 200,000 Dollars and say that our proportion is Double that am^{t} and we shall loose the remai[ni]ng part or sum and seem very willing to blame the Senators. I give them my Opinion in this way. That the twenty one Millions is supposed by Congress to be the amount of the demands the States may

have agst the United States after deducting the several sums recd by Particular States heretofore that after the settlements with the several States that State which is found to be in Advance or has demands more than their proportion of the sum assumed must have credit therefor. That the reason why this State had not its full proportion or *fiftieth* (?) part was on Account of the large sums of Mony this State recd in the time of War. They do not seem to be willing to agree with me. it seems they want to complain of your Conduct. whether I am right or they is for you to inform me (that I may fight as good a fight as I can) which I beg you to do as soon as Possible and let me into the whole plan and if you can get a larger sum added perhaps it may be no disadvantage especially if they are right and I am wrong, but I cannot think they are right for what means the Assumption is it taking only part of the Debt, consider the confusion it would make in the several States among the State Creditors one to receive all and the other nothing.

I am exceeding Anxious that you should exert yourself in the appointment of the Excise officers.[1] if you can get Judge Thompson appointed he can make such under appointments we think best. next to him I beg you to remember Wm Tyler Esq. who stands in need of help. you are sensible he is qualified and I believe must do as well as when employed by the State. if any under appts are made by Congress Rember Z Rhodes Alfred Arnold. The Country are so much engaged that I have not seen any of the leading men to converse with them but shall attend to what I think necessary for your Interest. dont delay Writing to those you mention and if you know any in the County of Bristol and Newport think of them. Mr Stanton can inform you of the Newport County. I think you had better Write a short letter to Jonathan Gorton and Gideon Arnold both of Warwick.

[1] The nominations to the offices under the new excise law were not submitted till March 4, 1791. Then John S. Dexter was nominated and confirmed as supervisor for the district of Rhode Island. *Executive Journal of the Senate*, I. 81.

I have heared but little said respecting our representative, but suppose Job to stand as fair as any one. You must excuse this letter also for I have no time to correct or Copy the boat being ready to Sail and I had not timely information. my health is bad. my Daughter Sally very poorly. the rest Well

With esteem from your Friend

A FENNER.

P. S. It is to be understood that if Judge Thompson gets the appointment he is to hold the Naval Office also. Remember John Wanton of Newport. give my kind love to Mr Stanton and he must receive this letter in part with you I not having time to Write to both.

A. F.

[Endorsed]:— "Letter from His Excellency Arthur Fenner Esq Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations Dated July 31st AD. 1790
Recd by the Hand of Capt. John Tillinghast in the Lobby of the Senate Chamber at New York Monday about One ° Clock P M. August 9th 1790"

FROM WILLIAM TYLER.[1]

PROVIDENCE Augt 2nd 1790

Honorable and Dear Friend

I had the Honour of Paruseing your last Letter to His Excellency Our Govenor, as well as all your former Letter to him and Judge Thompson, and should have wrote to you before this, could I have given you any more inteligence concerning matters &c &c than you Recd in their Several Answers, as you well know our sentiments Unite upon the true Republican Principles.

[1] Surveyor of the port of Providence under the late government.

I have the Hapiness to inform you that I have Conversed with many Leading Carrictors in our Party respecting your re-Election as a Senator who, one and All say, they are Perfectly Satisfyed, and approve of your Conduct, and will Exert themselves in your Intrest, so long as you remain a friend to the Rights of the People at Large, and it is my Candid Oppinion, by the Exertions of your Friends, *your Election will be sure.* You may Depend on Every Exertion in My power in your favour, and I shall be as Anxious to succeed as I was in your first Appointment, so that you may Depend on My Might.

I Observed you Mentioned in your last Letter to His Excellency, "Now the Assumption had taken place, there would be an Excise and of Course be Several Vacancies for Appointments and it would be in your Power to Serve any of his frie[n]ds." I include myself in that number, and hope you do also, and hope you think at least I am one of your fast friends, tho I am not Mentioned Particular, and Judge Thompson is. the Judge is Provided for, I am not. half the Exertions I should think Mad by you and my Friend Genl Stanton[1] that you made for Judge Thompson (Which God knows I am happy in his Appointment) Will secure me of Success, but However you are on the Ground, and know the Recommendations, that I have had from the Govr &c also from Govr Bowen to the President, &c &c

Sir if you will but be kind enough to Exert your self half so much in secureing an appointment for me, That I have and shall for you, I make no dout of Success

Sir you! Pardon my importunity and anxiety, when you Reflect of my being out of Business and a Family to Support, a son at Colledge,[2] and business Much Duller than when you left here,

---

[1] Senator Stanton was major-general of the militia of Rhode Island.

[2] No student named Tyler was graduated from Rhode Island College at this time; nor did William Tyler succeed in getting any federal office.

Sir Perhaps you have not heard who is in Nomination for a Federal Representative to Congress Job Comstock Esqr is Much in Vouge in our Party, it Mortifies the Great Brige to the Soul, which Spurs us on and from the best information I can gett from Different Quarters of the State, he will Succeed,

Sir Please to give My Best Respects to Genl Stanton and beg his Assistance in any Appointment you Shall think Proper to ask for Me I saw Mrs Foster and Dotia [1] yesterday and they were very well but want to see you very Much

I Remain Sir with the Greatest Esteem your friend and most Obedient and Hum^{l} Servt

Wm Tyler

FROM OBADIAH BROWN.

Providence, 2^{d} August, 1790;

Theodore Foster Esq,

Sir;

I am requested by the River Machine Company of this Town, to advise you of the unprosperous State of our Affairs, and to solicit the Fav^{r} of your Attention, in procuring us the Earliest releif from the Congress of the United States.

You well know, that a Number of the Merchants of this Town, finding that the River Shoaled perceivably every year or two; and that it had been several feet deeper within the memory of man than at present; procured a Charter from the Legislature of this State, incorporating them into a Body politic, for the purpose of deepning the River: and were allowed by them a Revenue of two Cents ℔ Ton, for all Vessels entering the harbour, of Sixty Tons and above.

The Company after advancing a Considerable Sum, in procuring the Machine and Scow to be Built, find that from

[1] Theodosia, Senator Foster's daughter, who afterward married Stephen Tillinghast.

their otherwise agreeable Situation in the Union, their whole design lays dormant: and must be intirely frustrated unless Congress do Confirm their Charter, or grant the[m] one Simular.

There are now three horses Subsisted at the Companies expence.

The Machine and Scow now lay Idle in this very wormy River, while this and the month following, are the Extent of the Season for Working: the whole Fall Season afterwards being generally too boisterous.

The Company were in hopes of having a Number more of Subscribers, but the present State of our affairs, as it has already abated the Ardency of the first promoters, will if it Continues put an Effectual Bar to the Increasing the Number of Shares in the Company, and of Course to the Increase of Stock, which is much wanted particularly for Building more Scows.

These, and more Ilconveniencies we suffer, wholly for the want of a Confirmation of the Revenue by Congress.

You are aware that all large Vessels are obliged to unload part of their Cargo at the Crook, which in the Icy Season is dangerous: the Scows sometimes taking in Water to the Damage of the Goods, and sometimes Sinking with the whole property on Board.

That there are a greater Number of Vessels belonging to this port, than belong to New York.

And that it is a place of more Navigation than any of its Size in the Union.

Perhaps it need not be mentioned to you, that this port will probably afford a greater Revenue than this whole State besides, and it is really no Chimera, that the Exertions of Art Excepted the time is fast approaching when Providence can be a port no longer.

The Company when met this afternoon, was very desirous of hearing what was done, and what it was likely might be done for their Assistance.

Their Letter to you, and your Colleague, inclosing an official Copy of their Charter; they had not much doubt was received.

A Line from you, or even an Intimation through some of your Friends, would greatly oblige.

Your Early attention to this Affair, will greatly increase the Regard of the members of the River Machine Company, by whose Order, and in their Behalf: —

I have the Honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obd^{t},
very hum^{l} Ser^{t},
OBADIAH BROWN,
Secry to the Company.

APPLICATIONS FOR FEDERAL OFFICE, 1789–1796.

ALLEN, PAUL (Captain). Providence, June 12, 1790. Recommended for appointment as naval officer of the port of Providence by Samuel Nightingale, John D. Torrance, Nicholas Power, and John Spurr. He supplied the army with stores during the war and lost his property in consequence.

—— Providence, June 18, 1790. Applies for appointment as naval officer of Providence. He was master of the second vessel bringing warlike stores into Providence, and furnished rations and ammunition.

—— Providence, February 14, 1791. Recommended for appointment as a revenue officer by Jabez Bowen, Enos Hitchcock, John Brown, and others. He is well qualified, and was a friend of the Revolution and the new Constitution.

ALLEN, WILLIAM. Providence, June 10, 1790. Applies for appointment as surveyor of customs for the port of Providence. He served through the war.

ANONYMOUS. Providence, March 16, 1789. Application for appointment as collector in Rhode Island.

BARTON, WILLIAM. Providence, September 3, 1789. Applies for some office in the custom service at Providence. The wounds he received in the war incapacitate him for business pursuits; refers to Dr. Manning, who is the bearer of the letter to the President.

BOURNE, BENJAMIN. Newport, June 13, 1789. Recommended for appointment as judge of the Western Territory by Nicholas Bowen (Brown?) and fifteen others, as a committee of the proprietors of the Ohio Company.

—— Providence, June 15, 1790. Recommended for appointment as attorney to the district court by Brown and Francis and six others.

—— Newport, December 9, 1793. Henry Marchant recites that it was thought at first he should be appointed attorney for the United States for the district of Rhode Island, but he may not be willing to leave Congress. ("Private and confidential" to Alexander Hamilton.)[1]

—— Providence, September 30, 1796. Recommended for appointment as district judge of Rhode Island by Jabez Bowen. He is now a member of Congress.

BOWEN, JABEZ. June 13, 1790. Recommends for naval officer of the port of Newport his son, Oliver Bowen. Refers to Colonel Leonard, member of Congress. Recommends Col. Jeremiah Olney for collector of the district of Providence, Col. William Peck for some office, and William Tyler for searcher of the port of Providence.

—— Providence, June 14, 1790. Recommended for appointment as commissioner of loans in Rhode Island by John Brown and seven others. They recite his meritorious services in the war and in contributing to the accession of Rhode Island to the Union.

[1] Printed in *American Historical Review*, I. 281, 282.

—— Providence, June 15, 1790. Recommended for an office by Brown and Francis. He would have been elected Senator, except that there was a decided majority of "the Anties" in the assembly.

—— Providence, June 19, 1790. Recommends for office of district judge Governor Bradford or Mr. Marchant. Recites that the appointment of either is desired by the Federalists; they are good Whigs and firm for the establishment of the federal government. Recommends Benjamin Bourne for office of district attorney and John S. Dexter for marshal; states that he sends these names because Governor Fenner and his friends are sending on names of candidates who will not be proper persons for office, their conduct having been uniformly opposed to the general government.

—— (No date.) Reports on candidates for office in Rhode Island. Judiciary: William Bradford, late lieutenant-governor of the state, a warm friend of the general government; David Howell, has been a member of Congress, but is not considered a uniform steady character; Henry Marchant, a judge previous to the late system of politics, a member of Congress, and a uniform friend of the general government; William Ellery, a judge before the late system of paper money, a supporter of the general government; William Channing, attorney-general previous to the paper money system, has been a member of the general assembly from Newport; Col. William Peck, served in the late war, part of the time in the family of General Sullivan, would make a good marshal, has suffered much from the war and politics of the State. The present judges are not known to Mr. Bowen, except Chief Judge West, a man of infamous character; is informed his associates are but little better. Revenue: E. Thompson, collector of Providence, a friend of the late measures of the state, is not agreeable to the people of Providence; Th. Foster, the present naval officer, has the reputation of being an intriguing man, and is much opposed to the general govern-

ment; Mr. Tyler, present surveyor of Providence, is spoken of as not standing very high for integrity.

CARTER, JOHN. Providence, February 22, 1790. Applies for appointment as naval officer of the district. He is now postmaster, but owing to the dearth of coin has lost money on account of his position; he was a typographer in his youth, under Franklin, and is now a printer, but his Anti-Federal competitor has received some of his business.

CHANNING, WALTER. Philadelphia, Mar. 6, 1790. Recommended for appointment as collector at Newport, R. I., by Joseph Anthony. He is vouched for by George Gibbs, a strong Federalist.

—— Newport, June 18, 1790. Recommended for appointment in the customs by his brother, William Channing.

COLLINS, JOHN, Newport, May 24, 1790. Applies for appointment as collector for the port of Newport. He has favored the Constitution and caused the appointment of a convention to adopt it, and since then has been deprived of every public trust and emolument.[1]

CORNELL, GEORGE. Portsmouth, R. I. (no date.) Applies for appointment in the customs service. He served in the army during the French and Indian war.

—— November 5, 1789. Renews application. If the state does not accede to the Constitution he will move to Massachusetts.

—— July 1, 1790. Renews application in a long petition.

—— August 1, 1790. Renews application. Will accept any place.

CRARY, ARCHIBALD. State of Rhode Island, February 2, 1790. Applies for appointment in the collection of the revenue. He was in either the military or civil service from the beginning to the end of the late war and up to 1786, since which date the proceedings in Rhode Island have been disgraceful and injurious to many individuals.

[1] Printed in *American Historical Review*, I. 279, 280.

—— New York, June 21, 1790. Renews application.

—— New York, June 29, 1790. Applies for appointment as marshal. Owing to the jealousy between Providence and Newport, his appointment from East Greenwich would be satisfactory.

—— Newport, R. I., June 1, 1790. Recommended for appointment in the revenue department at Newport by William Bradford, William Greene, Jabez Bowen, and others. His zeal in the cause of independence and his services in inducing an accession to the Constitution entitle him to the office.

—— Philadelphia, February 12, 1791. Applies for appointment as inspector of excise in Rhode Island. Refers to his previous applications.

CROOKE, ROBERT. Newport, June 3, 1790. Applies for appointment as collector of impost or naval officer of Newport. He was appointed collector for county of Newport in 1783 and continued in that office till 1787, when he was removed because of the emission of paper money and the opposition to the new Constitution.

—— Newport, May 24, 1790. Thomas G. Hazard, John Cook, Jabez Brown, and William Bradford, of Newport, and Henry Ward, notary public at Providence, certify to the same effect.

DEXTER, JOHN SINGER. Providence, June 15, 1790. Recommended for appointment as marshal of the Rhode Island district by Brown and Francis, and six others. He was a major and assistant to the adjutant-general in the Continental Army.

—— Philadelphia, March 2, 1791. Recommended by Benjamin Bowen (Bourne?) for appointment as collector of the additional duties on spirits in Rhode Island. His appointment would give general satisfaction.

ELLERY, WILLIAM. New York, June 14, 1790. Recommended for appointment as commissioner of loans, district judge, or collector of the port of Newport, R. I., by Abiel Foster and Benj. Huntington.

—— Newport, R. I., December 16, 1793. Recommends Ray Greene for district attorney in preference to Mr. Howell or Mr. Barnes. (To Alexander Hamilton.)

FEN, WILLIAM. Newport, R. I., January 18, 1790. Applies for appointment as surveyor of customs for port of Newport. He entered the service as captain in 1775 in Col. Thomas Church's regiment; in 1776, in Colonel Hitchcock's; in 1777, in Col. Israel Angell's, and resigned January 1, 1781. Refers to Colonel Sherburne and Colonel Olney.

—— May 29, 1790. Renews application.

FLINT, ROYAL. New York, June 14, 1790. Writes to Alexander Hamilton relative to Rhode Island appointments. Knows little of Mr. Littlefield; Edward Thurston has been opposed to the government during and since the war; Colonel Barton has much influence in Providence. Gives list of surveyors: Saml. Aborn, for Pawtuxet; William Arnold, Sr., for Greenwich; Manuel Case, for Wickford, North Kingstown; Walter White, Pawcatuck River; Jos. Whitmarsh, Warren; Shearjashub Bourne, Bristol. An unsigned memorandum among his recommendations gives: Colonel Olney, universally popular; Mr. Thomson, honest, but crabbed and and unpopular; Mr. Foster, an intriguing man of great weight, thought to have been bought by Anti-federalists, very popular in Providence, and his appointment would greatly please the paper-money people; Mr. Tyler, indifferently spoken of; Colonel Barton, popular among the lower class of people; Colonel Perth, stands high at Newport; Mr. Crooke is much respected; Colonel Sherburne, good, except where money is concerned; Dr. Oliphant, an old inactive man;

Colonel Lyman, respectable; Walter Channing, a good Federalist, much respected; Governor Bradford; Mr. Marchant may well be employed in the judiciary; Mr. Ellery would give satisfaction in the revenue department.

FOSTER, THEODORE. Providence, R. I., February 18, 1790. Applies for continuance in office as naval officer of the district of Providence. He now holds the office under state appointment, is a friend of the new Constitution, and served in the state assembly during the war. Recommends, also, Ebenezer Thompson for collector and William Tyler for surveyor. Both are competent, but belong to the party opposed to the adoption of the Constitution.

SIR THOMAS URQUHART AND ROGER WILLIAMS.

IN the *Nation* of June 7, 1900, Mr. Albert Matthews of Boston points out a passage relating to Roger Williams which has perhaps escaped attention hitherto. It is from the epilogue to *Logopandecteision, or an Introduction to the Universal Language*, published in 1653, by Sir Thomas Urquhart, the learned, fantastic and eccentric translator of Rabelais. Urquhart, captured with other royalist Scotsmen at the battle of Worcester, September 3, 1651, was imprisoned in Windsor Castle, but in the next July was permitted to go to Scotland on parole. Williams was in England in 1652 and 1653. We print the passage, characteristic of both men; the service to which it alludes probably had reference to Urquhart's release. It is given as from Urquhart's *Works*, Maitland Club edition, pp. 408-409.

"The enumeration of these aforesaid courtesies will not permit me to forget my thankfulness to that reverend preacher, Mr. Roger Williams of Providence in New England, for the

manifold favours wherein I stood obliged to him above a whole month before either of us had so much as seen other, and that by his frequent and earnest solicitation in my behalf of the most special members both of the Parliament and Councel of State; in doing whereof he appeared so truely generous, that when it was told him how I, having got notice of his so undeserved respect towards me, was desirous to embrace some sudden opportunity whereby to testifie the affection I did owe him, he purposely delayed the occasion of meeting with me till he had, as he said, performed some acceptable office, worthy of my acquaintance; in all which, both before and after we had conversed with one another, and by those many worthy books set forth by him, to the advancement of piety and good order, with some whereof he was pleased to present me, he did approve himself a man of such discretion and inimitably-sanctified parts, that an Archangel from heaven could not have shewn more goodness with less ostentation."

NOTES.

The *Providence Sunday Journal* of June 17, 1900, contained an article of several columns, with illustrations, on the Rhode Island Historical Society and its cabinet.

No. 8 of the *Publications of the American Jewish Historical Society* contains a short article by Rev. W. Willner on "Ezra Stiles and the Jews." In part it rests on books already familiar; but a part is derived from the diary of Dr. Stiles, possessed by Yale University and shortly to be published by that institution, and on his miscellaneous notes. There are a number of interesting items, from Dr. Stiles's Newport days, concerning the Jews of that town and the services of their synagogue. The doctor's account of the petition of the Jews for naturalization in 1762 and its treatment by the Supreme Court and the General Assembly is quoted in full. No. 6 of this valuable journal, published three years ago, contained an article on the Jews of Newport by Mr. Max J. Kohler.

The *Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society*, Volume XIII., Part 2, contains the announcement of two autograph letters of Roger Williams presented to the society by Mr. Robert C. Winthrop, Jr. These are original letters, one written to Governor John Winthrop in June, 1637, the second to John Winthrop, Jr., June 25, 1675. They have both been printed in the *Publications of the Narragansett Club*, Vol. VI., pp. 32 and 366, and also in the *Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society*, Fourth Series, Vol. VI.

The *Monthly Bulletin of the Boston Public Library* for March, 1900, prints an interesting letter from Mr. Auchmuty, Judge of the Admiralty in New England, to the Board of Admiralty in London, dated November 23, 1743, and relat-

ing to the illicit trade carried on in Rhode Island and in Connecticut. The *Bulletin* for April, 1900, prints a manuscript on "Paper Currency in the British Plantations in America." There are several items relating to Rhode Island, which the author calls "That licentious, perverse government of Rhode Island, who at the same time when they neglect, contemn and insult resolves of parliament, king's instructions, and the king's officers, do in an abandoned false and hypocritical manner, in the several preambles of their Emission Acts, pretend to the greatest submission and loyalty, laughing in the face of the British government, while they endeavour to cut the throat of its authority."

The *Historical Addresses and Poem*, delivered at the dedication of the Ministers' Monument in the First Hopkinton Cemetery, near Ashaway, R. I., August 28, 1899, have been recently printed by the American Sabbath Tract Society.

The *New England Historical and Genealogical Register* for April, 1900, has an article on the Gorham Family in Rhode Island, by Miss Georgiana Guild and Mr. Henry S. Gorham. This article has also been separately printed.

The United States Geological Survey has recently issued, as Vol. XXIII. of its *Monographs*, the "Geology of the Narragansett Basin," by N. S. Shaler, J. B. Woodworth, and A. F. Foerste. The object of this monograph, as Professor Shaler says in the preface, "is to set forth the results so far attained in the study of a field which presents singular difficulties in the way of its interpretation, and which will require the observation of many other students before it becomes thoroughly well known." Professor Shaler discusses the general geology of the Narragansett Basin, Mr. Woodworth the geology of the northern and eastern portions, and Mr. Foerste the carboniferous strata of the southwestern portion.

The *California Register*, in its initial number for April, 1900, has an article on the Holmes family of Rhode Island and New Jersey, by Hulda Holmes Bergen Brown.

Mr. Sidney S. Rider, in the *Providence News* for May 5, 1900, prints an article on the personal character of Thomas W. Dorr, written by Abraham Payne in 1854.

The *Journal of the American-Irish Historical Society*, Vol. II., contains two articles of interest to Rhode Islanders, both written by Thomas Hamilton Murray of Woonsocket. One is a sketch of an early Irish settlement in Rhode Island — the "Dorrance Purchase," situated in the present town of Foster; the other is entitled "The Irish Chapter in the History of Brown University."

Professor Herman V. Ames, in his "State Documents on Federal Relations," No, 1, reprints three Rhode Island documents — the Memorial to Congress, 1789; the reply to the Virginia Resolutions, 1799; and the Report on the Embargo, 1809.

Mr. Henry R. Palmer of the *Providence Journal* has a carefully written and well illustrated article on "The Libraries of Rhode Island" in the *New England Magazine* for June.

Mr. Norman M. Isham of this Society, has collaborated with Albert F. Brown, to publish a volume entitled *Early Connecticut Houses*. This work will doubtless be accorded the same merited praise as its companion volume *Early Rhode Island Houses*.

The late John J. Knox's recently issued *History of Banking in the United States* contains a short chapter on the history of banking in Rhode Island.

Mr. William A. Mowry, a corresponding member of this Society, and Arthur M. Mowry, also well known in this state, have collaborated to produce *First Steps in the History of Our Country.*

Maclay's *History of American Privateers* contains accounts of Silas Talbot and Solomon Drowne, and also a chapter on Rhode Island privateering in 1812. Its imperfections with respect to Rhode Island matters are pointed out by Professor W. H. Munro in the July number of the *American Historical Review*, V. 769-771.

Possibilities of Providence Harbor, published by the Providence Journal Company, contains a carefully written history of Providence shipping, compiled by Albert Rider of this city.

Previous Works of the Rhode Island Historical Society, obtainable at the Cabinet.

The Society has issued nine octavo volumes of Collections as follows:—

Vol. 1. *Roger Williams's Key to the Indian Language*, original printed in London, 1644; reprinted by the Society, 1827, pp. 163 $4.00

" 2. *Gorton's Simplicity's Defence*, original, London, 1646; reprint, edited by W. R. Staples, 1835, pp. 278..... 3.00

" 3. *Potter's Early History of Narragansett*, 1835, pp. 315; reprinted by William H. Potter, Esq., 1886, with notes and additional matter by the distinguished author and jurist, Elisha R. Potter; reprint, pp. 123 and xv. 5.00

" 4. *Callender's Historical Discourse*, original, 1739; reprint, 1835, edited by Professor Elton, pp. 270..... 5.00

" 5. *Staples's Annals of Providence*, 1843, pp. 670 and vi., seldom obtainable at the Cabinet; ordinary price about..... 10.00

" 6. *Invasion of Canada under Montgomery and Arnold, Thayer's Journal, Revolutionary Correspondence*, etc., 1867, pp. 380 and xxiv..... ..... 2.50

" 7. *Early attempts at Rhode Island History; Narragansett Indians; R. I. Votaries of Natural Science; The British in Rhode Island; First Commencement of Rhode Island College*, etc., 1885, pp. 380..... 2.50

" 8. *John Comer's Diary*, 1893, pp. 132..... 1.00

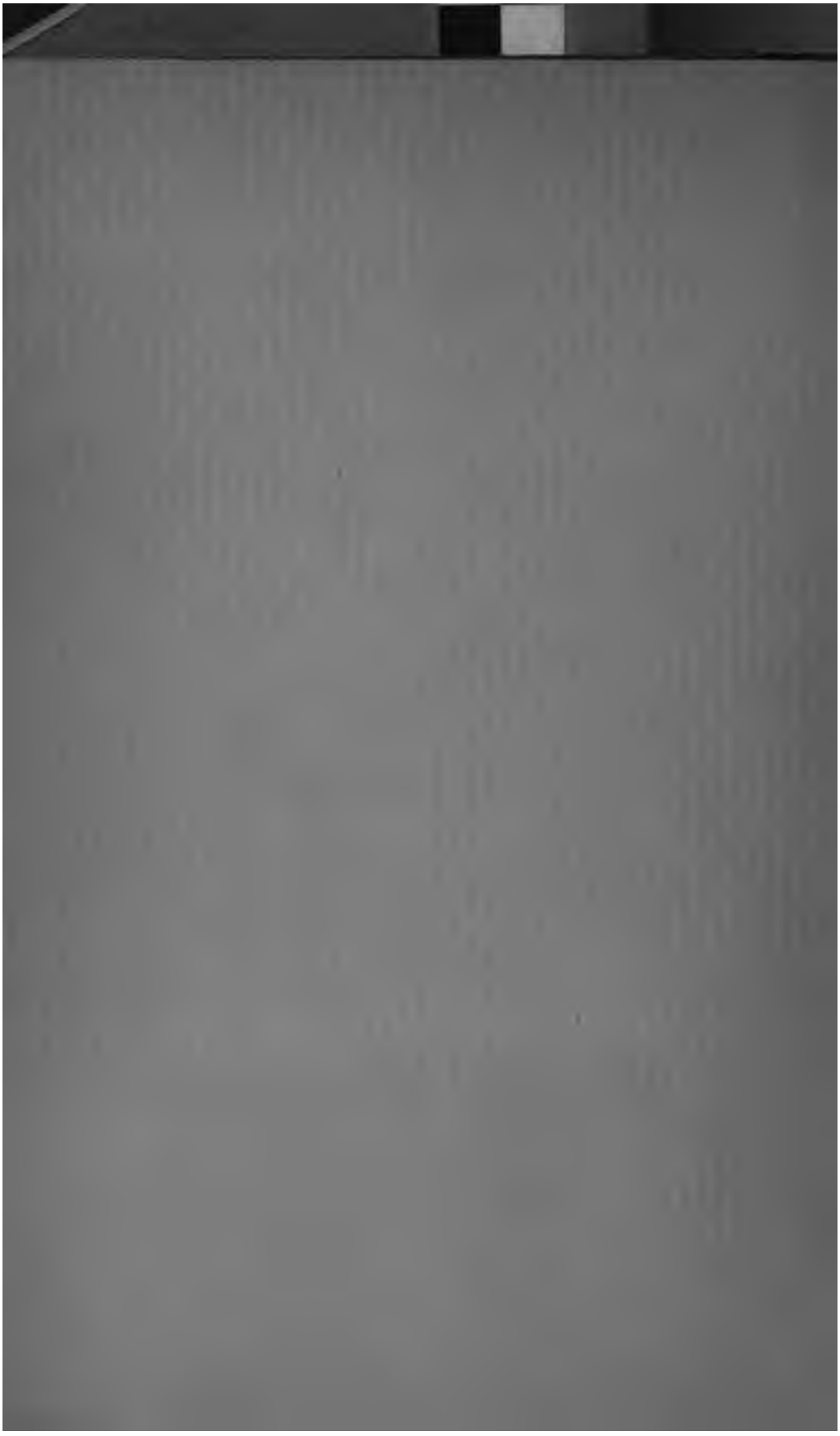
" 9. *Dorr's Sketch of the Controversy between the Proprietors and the Freeholders of Providence*, 1897, pp. 141.. ..... 1.25

Volumes 3, 4, and 5 of the Collections have long been out of print.

The Society's Proceedings, 1872-92, 21 numbers..... 16.00

Single numbers of the same, each..... ..... 1.00

For the *Publications*, see p. 2 of this cover.



PUBLICATIONS OF THE RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEW SERIES

VOL. VIII OCTOBER, 1900 NO. 3

WHOLE NUMBER, 31

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Publication Committee:

J. FRANKLIN JAMESON, AMASA M. EATON,

EDWARD FIELD.

The ... of April, July, October, and January. ... A few sets of the quarterly ... for the Cabinet, at $1.50 a volume.

PUBLICATIONS

OF THE

RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

VOL. VIII. OCTOBER, 1900. NO. 3.

TEN LETTERS OF ROGER WILLIAMS, 1654–1678.[1]

SINCE the appearance of the Narragansett Club's edition of Roger Williams's writings, there have come to light several of his letters which afford considerable additional evidence about his life. It has been deemed advisable to publish in the present number of the *Publications* all letters obtainable which have never before been printed, and also a list of all letters and tracts which were not printed in the Narragansett Club edition but have been printed elsewhere. Accordingly, with this article in hand, one will have a reproduction of all Roger Williams's writings not printed by the Club, or else a reference to places where such have been printed. For permission to use several of the letters printed in this article, acknowledgment should be made to the following gentlemen: to Mr. William Ely for the letter in the Allen Autograph Collection; to Mr. George P. Winship for the letters in the John Carter Brown Library; and to Mr. Edward Field for the letters kept under his care in the City Hall.

I. *List of Letters already printed, since the Issue of the Narragansett Club Edition.*

1649, Sept. 13. To [William] Field. (*R. I. Hist. Soc. Proc.*, 1877–1878, p. 62; also in Rider's *Hist. Tracts*, XIV. 46. MS. in Cabinet of R. I. H. S.)

[1] Prepared for publication by Mr. Clarence S. Brigham, Librarian of the Society.

1657, Feb. 24. To Arthur Fenner (*R. I. Hist. Soc. Proc.*, 1883–1884, p. 79. MS. in John Carter Brown Library.)

1657, Apr. 7. To Town of Providence. (Rider's *Hist. Tracts*, XIV. 48. MS. in Cabinet of R. I. H. S.)

1661, May 11. To Town of Providence. (*R. I. Hist. Soc. Proc.*, 1877–1878, p. 63; also in Rider's *Hist. Tracts*, XIV. 49; *Prov. Records*, XV. 83. MS. in Providence City Hall.)

1669, Aug. 24. To John Whipple. (*R. I. Hist. Soc. Proc.*, 1877–1878, p. 64; also in Rider's *Hist. Tracts*, XIV. 27. MS. in Cabinet of R. I. H. S.)

1677, Nov. 17. To Court of Commissioners. (Rider's *Hist. Tracts*, XIV. 52. Copy of MS. in Cabinet of R. I. H. S.)

1678, Aug. 25. To Court of Commissioners. (Rider's *Hist. Tracts*, XIV. 59. Copy of MS. in Cabinet of R. I. H. S.)

NOTE. An addition to a letter from Williams to Samuel Hubbard (Narr. Club, VI. 361) is printed in the *N. E. Hist and Geneal. Register*, LIII. 64. The recent publication of Vol. XV. of the *Providence Records* occasions a slight change in Williams's letter to Daniel Abbott as printed in the Narragansett Club edition, VI. 400. The letter to Abbott should be dated June 23, 1680, whereas the "Considerations presented touching rates," on page 401, should be a separate letter to the Town of Providence, dated Jan. 15, 1681. (See *Prov. Rec.*, XV. 206, 219.)

II. *List of Tracts not in the Narragansett Club Edition.*

Christenings make not Christians, London, 1645. (Reprinted in Rider's *Hist. Tracts*, XIV.)

Experiments of Spiritual Life and Health, London, 1652. (750 copies reprinted by Sidney S. Rider, Providence, 1863.)

The Hireling Ministry none of Christ's, London, 1652.

The Fourth Paper, Presented by Major Butler, London, 1652. (50 copies reprinted by George T. Paine, Providence, 1898.)

An Answer to a Letter from Mr. Coddington to Gov. Leveret, [Boston, 1679?] (Reprinted in *R. I. Hist. Soc. Proc.*, 1875–1876.)

III. *Letters previously unprinted.*

TO THE TOWN OF PROVIDENCE, NOV. 2, 1654.[1]

Portsmouth 2 9 54 (so calld)

Whereas the late Court of Commissioners adjournd Themselues untill th^e^ Presid^t^ and Assistants should recall them, and yet allso left it to th^e^ pleasure of Ea[ch] Towne, to send their former 6 or any other newly chosen: And whereas we see a great Necessitie of a Speedie Regulacion of our Lawes (now under th^e^ Examination of a Committee) as allso of a more Speedie Course of hearing th^e^ Complaints and Grievances of the Colonie: We haue calld a Court of Deputies or Commiss^rs^, to be held at Newport th^e^ 14 of this instant Novem^b^, being th^e^ 3rd of th^e^ weeke or Tuesday.

In order to w^ch^, in th^e^ name of his Highness Oliuer Lo. Protecto^r^, we warne and require th^e^ former 6 Commiss^rs^ of yor Towne to attend this Court except you please to make a New Choice.

ROGER WILLIAMS Presid^t^
Thomas Harris Asestant
John R Roome Asistant
Benedict Arnold Assistant
Randall Houlden asst

For th^e^ Towne of Prouidence

[1] The original letter is possessed by the R. I. Hist. Soc., "Moses Brown Papers," XVIII. 67.

TO JOHN ENDICOTT, SEPT. 27, 1656.[1]

27 7 56 (so calld)

Postcript.

S[r] th[e] inclosed being not calld for by m[r] Tod within mencioned, please you to know th[t] Tho: the Scot within named hath bene taken up, drowned (as is brought in by th[e] Crowners Inquest) in going ouer in his Canow, having drunck too much Peach bear at his neighbo[rs]. His wife tells me she is now going to [* * * * *][2] againe, at w[ch] I am silent untill I heare yo[r] Advice and pleasure. Thomas th[e] Scot (as this bearer Henry Fowler hath said) hath wept to him about his wife th[t] he could not get hir from [* * * * *]:[2] Much more this bearer knowes, as I heare. S[r], while matters are undecided betweene yo[r]selues and us concerning Patuxit we can neither proceed with them without yo[r] offence, nor winck at them without great scandall: It is said that Long Dick objecting to W[m] Carpenter powder selling, they objected to him his [*iniquity*] w[ch] 2 Pawtuxet Indians saw him act: and Zach. Rodes made Long Dicks will at his Late Flight to whose younger child he gave 10[lb] and 5[lb] a piece to Rodes his man and maid for concealing and being witnes to th[e] will. S[r] matters are so ripe to be examined th[t] I could not longer be silent (although it may be they are prejudiced ag[st] me) and therefore (as to stay Long Dick I sent a warrant yesterday and this day Pawtuxit folkes say he is now gone) so I thought it my dutie to present matters before yo[r] wisdomes, humbly beseeching God to guide you, and S[r] desirous to be yo[rs] in all services of Loue

R. W.

[Endorsed:] "To th[e] much hon[rd] John Endicot Esq[r] Gov[r] of th[e] Massachusets these Presented."

[1] The original letter is in the autograph collection gathered by the late Mrs. Zachariah Allen.

[2] Name omitted.

TO JOHN ENDICOTT, DEC. 1, 1656.[1]

Prouidence 1. 10. 56 (so calld)

Sr

Due respects to Yor honrd selfe and Yor dearest, and Yor much honrd Magistrates, heartily wishing you a long and blessed Life amongst us: I was lately bold to present you with 2 Letters: The one by Mr Fowler of our Towne: The other by my son in Law mr Sailes. In both I presented you with a Narratiue of my proceeding with one Rich: Chasmore (alias Long Dick) lately of Pawtuxet. He was infamous for [ ], 2 Indians of Pawtuxet affirming tht they saw him in the Act the one in the Winter the other in the Spring: Before a Court at Providence he apparantly fled when yet I heard nothing: when he had prepar'd at the Dutch, and came privatly for his Catle I then (not willing tht he should escape Yorselues, and out of the midst of us, unquestioned) I granted Warrants to the Constables of Providence and Warwick, before whome (searching for him) he fled and Zachary Rodes of Pawtuxit furthered his flight and Conveyed away his great Stock of Catle, under his owne Name very impudently and with an high hand, himselfe gaining by Gifts and Transactions 3 score pounds and more by him. Sr of this (and of no small presumptions of old Arnolds uncleannes with his maide and a powder trade driuen by his son Stephen, worthy inquisition by yorselves or us) I wrote: Since Sr (this last weeke (probably upon Letters I wrote to the Dutch Govr) he came with some of Pawtuxet and surrendred himselfe to me at my howse: I was not willing (without yor knowledge) to proceede with him in a Common Way of Triall, but tooke bond of him to appeare at Newport at or Gen: Court in May where his Case (as relating to Pawtuxit not finished betweene Yorselues and us) might be Considered. Since again his friends haue beene with me tht he

[1] The original letter is in the John Carter Brown Library.

might haue his Triall at ou^r^ Court of Trialls in March, w^ch^ (out of respect to yo^r^selues as aforesaid) I haue refused: resolving with th^e^ Soonest to present my proceedings againe before yor wisedomes untill you please to intimate a word of yor pleasure in these Cases.

S^r^ as to Pawtuxit men I can truly in all humilitie appeal to God, th^t^ I knew nothing (not in th^e^ least) when I had th^e^ fauour of Negociating with you about Pawtuxet: and I had much rather Yo^r^ wisedomes and strength should take Cognizance of these Evills then our Folly and Weaknes. I stand accountable to ou^r^ Gen: Court and his Highness if I suffer Such Crimes unquestioned before my face (whereas You^r^selues are cleare for want of Easie Inspection and Informacion, and yet allso I would gladly present unto our Court yor pleasure, wch I know will be such as shall tend to th^e^ Vindication of yo^r^selues and us: I heare this Man is advised to stay here all this Winter and to present himselfe to our Gen Court of Trialls in March at Newport, and so to inforce us to his Triall. If so, I shall then imprison him, and Endeauour to suspend his Triall untill th^t^ Court in May (unto wch I haue bound him) first take Cognizance of his person and Case as relating to yo^r^selues: I guesse th^e^ bottome of th^t^ Councell is, upon an easier doome with us where Indian Testimonie will not easily passe, (and yet I am now informed th^t^ Zach. Rhodes and others of Pawtuxet suspect him deeply from his owne expressions.

S^r^ I Craue Yo^r^ pardon to this Trouble, this bearer Mr Hart a Young shipm^r^ (who now maketh Loue to my second daughter Freeborne,) is bound for Salem about a Vessell: If by his returne You can spare a litle season for a line, it shall be thanckfully accepted by Yo^r^ humble Servant

R. W.

[Endorsed:]

"For the much hon^rd^ John Endicot, Esqr. Govr of th^e^ Massachusets these"

TO THE TOWN OF WARWICK (?) JAN. 1, 1666.[1]

Beloved Friends and Countrimen

My due respects presented with heartie desires of yor present and eternall prosperitie when this short Life is ouer: I was resolued to haue visited you my selfe this winter and to haue ꝑswaded with Argum^ts of Trust and Loue th^e finishing of th^e paym^ts relating to his Maties Royall Graunt and Charter to us: But it pleased God to visit me with old pains and Lamenesses, so th^t sometimes I haue not bene able to rise nor goe nor stand.

I pray yor Courteous Leaue (therefore) of Saluting you with these few Lines, and yor fauorable Attention to them.

On 2 hinges my discourse shall turne: First the Fairnes and Equity of th^e Matter: 2, th^e dammage and Hazard if not ꝑformed.

As to th^e first: th^e Fairnes of th^e Matter, please you to heare 2 or 3 witnesses: the first is Common Honestie and Common Justice in Common dealings between Man and Man: This giues to every man his Due, a penyworth for a peny: and will cry shame upon us th^t m^r Clarke should be undone yea destroy'd and ruind (as to this World) for his so great and so long paines, Faythfullnes and Diligence, for wch he ought in Common Justice, to be faythfully satisfied and hon^bly rewarded, although it should haue pleased God to haue granted him no Successe, no Charter no Fauo^r in th^e Eyes of our Soueraigne Lord th^e King.

These very Barbarians when they send forth a publike messenger, they furnish him out, they defray all paym^ts, they gratifie him with Rewards, and if he proue Lame and sick and not able to returne, they visit him, and bring him home upon their shoulders (and th^t many Scores of miles) with all Care and Tendernes.

[1] The original letter is in the City Hall of Providence, in the "Warner Papers," I. 9, numbered + 17.

At th^e^ first Rode Iland, but afterward th^e^ whole Colony requested, employed, and sent to m^r^ Clarke a Commission and Credentialls sealed, with wch th^e^ King was satisfied, and owned him for our publike Agent.

Now let me say these 2 things wch mine eyes haue seene: First when I left Mr Clarke in England to negociate th^e^ Affairs of the whole Colony I saw with what a Low saile he stood along, with what Content, patience and selfe denyall wch Course I know he hath Continued having receaved but little supply from us, nor of his owne estate wch he Continually wrote for,

2 At our Gen: Assembly when Mr Clarkes accounts were fairly brought in of what he had recd and what he had borrowed (upon th^e^ Morgage of his house and Land) to goe through our Worke, th^e^ Assembly appointed a Committee of able and judicious Men to examine th^e^ accounts: upon whose Report and upon their owne further Examinacion and Consideracion they saw cause to agree upon a Very moderate and Equall summe to be raised throughout th^e^ Colony, to be discharged unto him:

Worthy Friends it is Easy to find Cloaks and Coulours for Denyalls or Delays to any Busines: We haue no mind to: I have visited most of my neighbo^rs^ at Prouidence this winter: Some say they are sory and ashamed of th^e^ Delay and promise to finish it with speede: some few say they haue done it: Some say they like not some Words in th^e^ Charter: some say they will pay if all doe: some are ag^st^ all Gou^r^m^t^ and Charters and Corporacions: some are not so and yet cry out ag^st^ Thieues and Robbers who take any Thing from them ag^st^ their Wills: some say they will see what became of their former paym^ts^ before they will part with any more: some will see th^e^ Charter first, because they hear th^t^ Col: Cartwright caried th^e^ Charter into Engl: with him: some say let those tha^t^ sent m^r^ Clarke into Engl: at first pay him: And some say other things, but none say ought (in my Judgm^t^)

wch answers th^e witnes of Common Honesty: For th^e whole summ and scope of his Maties Royall graunt and charter to us is to bestow upon us 2 inestimable Jewells

The first is peace, commonly calld among all men th^e Kings peace, [*among*] ou^rselues and among all th^e Kings subjects and Friends in this Countrey and wheresoeuer: And further at our Agents most seasonable peticion y^r King prohibites all his subjects to act any Hostilitie toward our Natiues inhabiting with us without our Consent, wch hath hietherto bene otherwise practiced to our Continuall and great grievance and disturbance.

The 2 Jewell is Libertie: th^e first of our spirits wch neither Old nor N. Engl: knowes th^e like, nor no part of th^e World a greater.

2 Libertie of our persons: No Life no Limbe taken from us: No Corporall punishm^t no Restraint, but by knowne Lawes and Agreem^ts of ou^r owne making.

3 Libertie of our Estates, Howses Catle, Lands, Goods, and not a peny to be taken by any rate from us, without euery mans free debate by his Deputies, chosen by himselfe and sent to th^e Gen: Assembly.

4 Libertie of Societie or Corporacion: of sending or being sent to the Gen: Assembly: of choosing and being chosen to all offices, and of making or repealing all Lawes and Constitutions among us,

5 A Libertie (wch other Charters haue not) to wit of attending to th^e Laws of Engl: with a favourable mitigacion viz: not absolutely but respecting our Wilderness Estate and Condicion.

I confesse it were to be wished th^t these Dainties might haue fallen from God and th^e King like showers and Deawes and Manna from Heauen, gratis and free, like a ioyfull Harvest or vintage without any paine of ou^r Husbandry; But since th^e most holy God th^e first Cause hath ordained second Causes, and Meanes and Agents and Instrum^ts; it is

no more honest for us to withdraw in this case then for Men to come to an Ordinary and to call for th^e best wine and Liquo^rs, the best Meats Rost and bak't, th^e best Attendance &c and to be able to pay for all and yet most unworthily steale away and not discharge the Reckoning.

My 2nd Witnes is Common Gratitude, famous among all Mankind yea amongst Bruit Beasts euen th^e Wildest and fiercest for Kindnes receaved: It is true m^r Clarke might haue a just respect to his owne and th^e peace and Libertie of his Friends of his owne ℘swasion: But I belieue th^e Waight wch turn'd th^e scale with him, was th^t truth of God viz: a just Libertie to all Mens Spirits in spirittuall matters togeather with th^e peace and prosperitie of th^e whole Colony. This I know put him upon incredible paines and Travells, straights, and Angwishes, day and night, himselfe and his friends and ours: wch I belieue a great summ of money would not hire him to wade through th^e like againe. I will not trouble you with th^e Allowances, paym^ts and Gratuities of other Colonies in like cases: Only let me present you with a famous story out of our English Records: Henry th^e 3rd (as I remembr) fell out with th^e City of London, tooke away their Charter and set a Gou^r ouer them wch brought many Evills and sorrowes on them: But Do: Redman (so called) pacified th^e Kings anger and procured a restitution of their charter, though with great charges and paym^ts of monies. Now while this Redman liued they hon^rd him as a Father, and heaped all possible Gratuities on him and when he died they decreed th^t th^e Lo: Major and Aldermen and Chiefe Citisens should yearely and sollemnly visit his Tombe, wch mine Eyes haue seene ℘formed in th^e publikle walks in Pauls and I presume it is practiced to this day.

I will not trouble you with th^e application of this story but present you with my 3rd witnes of the Fairnes of this matter wch is Christianitie, wch we all of us pretend to, though in various and different ℘swasions: This witnes soars high

aboue Common Justice and Common Gratitude, yea aboue all Religions. This not only speakes home for due paym^ts and due Thanckfullnes but of doing Good for Evill of paying Blessing for cursing, of praying for Enemies and Persecut-o^rs, of Selling Howses and Lands, yea of laying downe liues for others. Common Justice would not, Common Gratitude would not, least of all will Christianitie employ a publike Messenger unto a mighty King, and there leaue him to shift for his Living and meanes to goe through so high a service: nor leaue him to shift for monies and to mortgage his howse and Lands to cary on our Busines, and then to forfiet and loose them, and lost they are (as all may see) except a speedie Redemption saue them.

Shall we say we are Christians yea but ingenious or just men, to ride securely (in a troublous Sea and time) by a new Cable and Anckor of Mr Clarks procuring, and to be so far from satisfying his Engagem^t about them, th^t we turne him adrift to langwish and sinck, with his Back broke for putting under his shoulder to ease us.

W^ch of you (said Christ Jesus to his Enemies will see an Ox or a sheepe fall into a pit and not pull it out on th^e Sabboth day? What Beast can labour harder in plowing, drawing or carying then m^r Clark hath done so long a time and with so litle prouender? shall we now when he looks for Rest at night, tumble him (by our Neglects) into a Ditch of Sadnes, Griefe, Povertie and Ruine?

Giue me now leaue therefore to mencion my 2nd part or Hinge, wch is th^e Hazard we run by not a free discharging. For first one of these three points we must steer on: Either m^r Clarke must patiently lye in th^e pit, and langwish and ꝑish (I speake as to us for I know there is a paymaster in th^e Heauens who will not fail him:) Or 2. some Voluntiers must patiently put under their shoulders and beare th^e Common burthen, wch for my selfe I am ready to doe although I part with my Cloths from my back. Or 3. th^e Rate must be

taken by distraint in th^e^ Kings name and Authoritie, and this we know will be more grievous and more chargeable: yet can not be avoided, if we resolue not to turne Rebells, nor loose Vagrants to be catchd up by other Colonies and Govnm^ts^: or else to leaue our Catle, Children Wiues and Liues to be torne out of ou^r^ bozomes by th^e^ strongest Arm, Catch who catch can: It is true th^t^ Honestie and Innocencie, Reason and Scripture are infinitly Excellent in ther Way, but are they Sufficient to charme (except God please to giue his spirit) Adders Serpents, Foxes, Wolues, &c. yea or to order tame Beasts without Bit or Bridle, as David speaks by wch we all know what David meanes.

2 If we wholy neglect this Busines what will become of ou^r^ Credits? Will not our stinck reach th^e^ nostrills of ou^r^ neighbo^rs^ yea of all th^e^ Inhabitants of th^e^ world th^t^ hear of us? Rode Iland (in th^e^ Greeke language) is an Ile of Roses, and so th^e^ Kings Matie was pleased to resent it: And his hon^ble^ Comm^rs^ in their last lettrs to th^e^ Massachusets from th^e^ Eastward gaue Rode Iland and this whole Colony an hon^ble^ testimonie (wch is like to be printed to th^e^ view of th^e^ whole World:) shall we now turne our Roses into Hemlock, our fragrant Oyntm^t^ into stincking Caryon? Our owne names (in a righteous way) ought to be more precious to us then thouhsands of Gold or siluer, how much infinitly more precious th^e^ name of th^e^ most holy and most High, and his holy Truth of soule Liberty amongst us?

3 Again who knowes what stormes and Tempests yet abide us? Who now will euer be employed by such masters, in what soeuer straights we may come into? Hath not God taught Beasts and Birds to be shie of being deceaved, especially th^e^ second time? How justly shie are Christians of th^e^ Turks because they Care not to be true to Christian Dogs (as like Dogs they speake)? How shie are th^e^ Protestants of th^e^ Papists because of their principle (and practice) to keepe no Faith with Heretics: Who will not hereafter be

fearfull to trust us, when like false marchants our Bills may be protested yet all men may take heed how they deale with us?

4: What a worme and sting of Bitternes will it be to us, to remembr (like Jerusalem in the dayes of affliction) all our pleasant things? Such peace, such security, such Liberties for Soule and Body as were neuer enjoyed by any English men, nor any in the World tht I haue heard of? If now for our Unthanckfullnes, it should please God to turn the wind, and bring the wheele ouer us, and to clap on our Necks those iron yokes wch so many thouhsands and millions of mens necks are under in all Nations of Mankind, will it not then be as Gall to our minds to call to mind how free we were, yea to our childrens minds to remember how free their Fathers were, and might haue bequeathed and Transferd unto them such precious and invaluable Treasures?

5 With what indignation (must we needs imagine) will the King him selfe Entertaine the Thought of such a people, tht shall so undervalue and slight the rich and Extraordinary Favors wch it pleased God to put into his Royall Heart to bestow upon this Colony? How hath God bene pleased to turne the Kings heart towards us as Riuers of Water? How hath his Favour towards us fallen like Deaw upon Gideons fleece, while all the World lies round about us drie and barren of such Liberties? What can we now expect but the Roaring of a Lyon unto such an unrighteous and ungratefull Generacion?

6 And yet if we imagine our Mountaine to be immovable by any Wind or Shakings under Heauen: yet we must looke higher to the most High King and Judge of the whole World, in whose most powerfull hand we prefer to be, or Breaths and Beings our Wayes and Motions: He hath whips and scourges for Colonies and Countreis Nations and Kingdomes, as we haue felt in N. E. this last yeare and haue dolefully heard from Old: How haue the Arrowes of the pestilence

pierced th^e Hearts of thouhsands and ten thouhsands of o^r fellow English? How dreadfully hath he mixt th^e Bloud of English Dutch and French with th^e brinish Ocean? His Jealousie was pleased to cause a Black cloud to houer ouer this Countrey this last summer. It pleased him to cause this Cloud to break and fall on some of our Countrimen to th^e Southward and Westward of us, and then to run to th^e Norward and Eastward of us to N. found land but not to come neerer our Habitacions.

Shall now N. Eng: say shall this Col. say Tis for ou^r Righteousnes: There are no Sins th^t cry in this Colony and Countrey for Justice to revenge abased mercy.

Worthy friends th^e changes of the Heauens and th^e Earth haue bene great and sudden seen and felt by us all this Winter: Let us not sooth and sing ou^r selues asleep with murthering Lullabies: Let us provide for changes and by timely Humiliation, preuent them: For my selfe, seeing what I see ouer all N. Eng: I can but say with David Psal. 119. My flesh trembleth for feare of thee and I am afraid of thy Judgm^ts.

I remain

Providence 1. Jan 1665.6 (so calld)

Longing after yor present and Eternall peace

R. W.

TO WAIT WINTHROP, JULY 7, 1675.[1]

From Mr Smiths July 7, '75 (ut vulgo *Sir* this last second day in the morning five troopers came from Swanzy to me bringing the Governour and councils Letter from Boston to me with there desire of my accompanying Capt Huchinson (then at Swanzy) to Nahiggonck from Swanzy, I came to Nahiggonsik and Capt Moseley of Boston and about five score privateers with him resolved

[1] From a copy of the original letter, possessed by the Society, "Moses Brown Papers," XVIII. 118.

men: Capt Huchinson hath sent again and again for the Sachims, they can not yet agree upon a Meeting, nor when they meet (without Gods Extreordinary hand) can I think they will agree, but that there will be blows and bloodshed and the fire kindled: Capt Huchinsin is writing to you himself and I think it best to supside that point, though I judge there is great (if possible) of your concurrence fearing that God may suffer the barbarians to put our small company to some inconveniencies: five days since Capt Cudworth, Capt Bradford, Capt Fuller with upwards of two hundred from Plymouth, as also Capt Savidge Capt Prentice, Capt Page and with about two hundred from the Bay drove Phillip's Neck (Mount Hope) but found not him nor any indian: Since they are divided and the Plymouth forces, I met them on their march persuing Philip towards Rehoboth, Taunton, Bridgwater &c and Capt Savidge persuing him this way towards the Nahiggonsik: The barbarians have Slain 14 persons and burnt twenty houses in and about Swanzey. They have burned many farm houses about Providence and wounded 3 of our men. The forces at Swansey could meet with no company of Indians yet they kill'd 4 Indians, and we at Providence five or six. Sir the messenger stays, I pray impart these to Mr Avery, and Wetherell: Mr Smith and myself present our Lo. respects to your honourable Gouernour and Magistrates and yourselves. I humbly beg of God to give you council and streangth in this dangerous hour, and to turn all, to his own praise, and this countrys safety, and the joy of them that truly love and trust in him.

Sir your most unworthy Servant

ROGER WILLIAMS

[Endorsed:] "Copy—Roger Williams L^{re} to Capt Wait Winthrop at New London, Stonington or Elsewhere.
July 7th 1675. Copied 7mo 31st by
William J. Harris, 1826."

TESTIMONY RELATIVE TO PURCHASE OF PROVIDENCE, FEB. 7, 1678.[1]

Providence 7. Febr. 1677–8 (so called)

I, Roger Williams, of th^e^ Town of Providence in New Eng^l^, aged about seventie five years[2] yet (through God's mercy) of fresh understanding and memorie doe (at th^e^ request of my hon^rd^ kind friends and neighbo^rs^ Capt. Houlden and Cap Green, declare and testifie viz: th^t^ it pleased th^e^ most High to make use of myselfe th^e^ first in this Colony to break th^e^ Ice with the Barbarians and from them to procure th^e^ lands and meadows of th^e^ Towns of Providence and Pawtuxit That for peace sake I parted with my Interest in Providence and Pawtuxit: and yet in my deeds given to th^e^ Town of Providence and th^e^ twelve Pawtuxet men, I gave not one foot of land or medow unto them beyond our known bounds set us in our grand deed from th^e^ Sachims Canonicus and Miantunnomi, to wit W[ ] and from thence to Pawtuxit and Pawtuckqut and therefore far from reaching to Pachasit, much less beyond it to Mesh[ ] and Narrow R lands and meadows.

In witness to th^e^ premeses I subscribe.

ROGER WILLIAMS.

[Endorsed:]

"Mr. R. Williams testimony or certificate given John Green and Randal Holden, against the claim of Pawtuxet men that he did not *Give*, yet it is evident he *sold* more, and that he could not and therefore to Save himself from asserting a falsehood and to save his Friends he used the Words 'did not give.'"[3]

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[1] From a copy of the original letter, possessed by the R. I. Hist. Soc., and inserted in their copy of the *Narragansett Club Publications*, at p. 394 of Vol. VI.

[2] This is the only definite statement of Roger Williams as to his age occurring in any of his writings. Estimates as to the date of his birth have varied from 1599 to 1607. (See summary of evidence in *N. E. Hist. and Geneal. Reg.*, LIII. 60). The above statement would seem to fix the date as 1603.

[3] This endorsement was undoubtedly written by Moses Brown.

TO THOMAS HINCKLEY, JUNE 18, 1678.[1]

To th^e^ much honoured Thomas Hinckley Presid^nt^ and th^e^ rest of th^e^ much honoured Commission^rs^ from th^e^ respective Colonies this 18 Jun. 1678 (so calld) Sitting at Prouidence in N. Engl:

*Much hon^rd^ S^rs^*

When it pleased th^e^ most High, aboue fortie yeares since (by th^e^ advice of th^t^ euer hon^rd^ M^r^ Jo: Wintrop th^e^ Eldest) to Setle me in these parts: I found Caunounicus (th^e^ great Sachim of th^e^ Nahigonsik) and Ousamaquin (th^e^ great Sachim on Plymmouth Side) at deadly feud and Enmitie, both Challenging this Mooshausick or Prouidence, and I was forced to win the Agreem^nt^ of these 2 great Mortall foes: and to win their Fauo^r^ and protectjon, at no small personal Travel and Charges, to their Last breath especially Caunounicus (who was th^e^ true Lord of this whole Countrey) whose Eyes I was sent for by him to close up and did: W: Harris and some of th^e^ first whome I admitted, neuer ceased (upon pretence of Conscience Loue and peace to prevaile with me to admit them to Equalitie with my selfe in Prouidence and Pawtuxit Lands (I receaving of them toward my great Charges and Travels, for this priviledge of being equall to my selfe something not Considerable, no way ponderous with myselfe, but higher Grounds for peace and publike Ends: &c These first 12 fell from th^e^ nature of Feoffees (in trust with my selfe for publike Ends) to Monopolizing so th^t^ th^e^ after Comme^rs^ Contended with them and for peace sake It perswaded both sides to Arbitracion, wch gaue Pawtuxit (to th^e^ great Regret of most) to those called Pawtuxit men: when matters were thus setled the 12 Pawtuxit men (for shame) offerd me to be one and I should be as rawming for upstreams and I should claim an equall share with W. Harris, did not th^e^ feare of God and Conscience bid me to be peaceable and Contented. The

[1] From the original letter in the John Carter Brown Library.

number of those admitted to the priviledge of purchase with my selfe being great they made an Order to receaue no more, and more Comming they ordred to giue them 25 acres and to pay ten shillings to a Town stock with wch they should be Content: These 25 acre men encreasing th^e^ purchasers Calld upon them to doe service as well as themselues to Towne and and Countrey they did so, and thereby Came to priviledge of equall ordering of all Towne Affaires, and equally paid (to a peny) to th^e^ Later purchase (wch W. Harris cald Confirmacion of his up streams &c

As to th^e^ Head of Wanasquatuckqut: I must humbly pray yor leaue to say (what th^e^ Most High is witnes to) th^t^ the great Sachims neuer gaue me nor did I giue to any a foote beyond those knowne stated bounds fixt us in our grand Original deede to wit Pawtuckqut, Notaquonckanit Maushapog and Pawtuxet wch at th^e^ furthest th^e^ Sachims would neuer Suffer to extend beyond Paupauqunnuppog far short of W. Har: his being at Pauchasit wch was euer accounted by th^e^ Indjans a Violation, and God knowes th^t^ by my Meditation and purse I gained W. Har: libertie by Connivence (for my sake) to stay there in safety (as m^r^ Olny said) like Nebuchadnezzar not fit to liue in a Societie of Men at Towne.

Tis true (you Nobles and Cream of N. Engl.) I rested not in th^e^ Righteousnes of yor decrees at Prouidence and therefore I durst not be active with my Neighbo^rs^ in their running th^e^ Line: but as I haue waited upon God with patience aboue these 40 yeares, in th^e^ ℘turbatjons, Oppressions and Comminations and mortal threatnings and actings of this restles Soule &c so my poore aged person and purse will be patient what euer unjust burthen (though Death it Selfe it may please th^e^ most holy and only wise to lay upon me. I mourne in soule Grief to see yor hon^rd^ selues so hurried from yor owne Townes and families to attend upon th^e^ pip^r^ (5 times from all th^e^ parts of New Engl:) th^e^ pipe of this man who as one or more of yor selues told me will neuer be pacified and quiet till death.

Hon^rd S^rs at yor last sitting at Prouidence I humbly offerd to end any Complaint of W. Har: ag^nst my selfe by Arbitracion: and I was further bold to say th^t I judged th^t W. Har: (by many wicked meanes on his part th^t I Can mention) having trapaned yor Selues into so thick a Swampe with him, No other way to Extricate yor selues would be, then by Arbitracion, wch W. Har, himselfe hath magnified (though it was in subtletie ag^nst Law and Magistrate wch he abhord to be subject to) preaching and writing th^t they were Divels, of th^e Divel &c.

As things now stand I cannot thinck of Arbitracion: You may please to know it probable th^t by this time his Matie hath recalld yor power (though Yet his pleasure be not Come to yor hand:) I guesse and almost belieue it to be true, and therefore judge it to be yor high Wisedome and Safety to wait (as first upon th^e Matie of Heauen his goings in this matter) so at th^e footstool of our Royall Soueraign, by wch meanes only you may Come from this trou[ble]some Helme to a Safe, just, peaceable, and hon^ble repose and Cabin

Much ho^nrd S^rs I am unworthy to be

Yo^r humble servant,

ROGER WILLIAMS.

TO THE TOWN OF PROVIDENCE (undated).[1]

Lo: friends and Neighbo^rs

I haue againe considered on these papers and find many considerable things in both of them. My desire is th^t after a friendly debate of particlars euery man may sit downe and rest in quiet, with th^e finall Sentence and Determination of th^e Towne. For all Experience tells us th^t Publike Peace and Loue is better than abundance of Corne and Cattell &c

[1] The original letter is in the Providence Town Papers, no. 01291, written on the back of an undated report to the town concerning "fencing in the Neck."

I haue one only Motion and petition wch I earnestly pray th^e^ Towne to lay to heart, as euer they looke for a Blessing from God on the Towne, on yor Families, yor Corne and Catle and yor children after you: It is this: that after you haue gott ouer th^e^ Blackbrooke of some Soule Bondage yo^r^selues, you teare not downe th^e^ Bridge after you, by having no small pittance for distressed soules th^t^ may come after us. What though th^e^ Division, or Allottment be neuer so small, yet ourselues knew th^t^ some mens Distresses are such th^t^ a piece of a Dry Crust, and a dish of Cold Water is sweet, wch if this Towne will giue sincerely unto God (setting aside some litle portions for other distressed soules to get bread on) you know who hath engaged his heauenly word for yor Reward and Recompence

Yo^rs^ R. W.

TO THE TOWN OF PROVIDENCE (undated)[1]

I pray th^e^ Towne th^t^ th^e^ place of meeting be certain, and some Course setled for paym^nt^

2 That th^e^ Clark and S^r^geant may be satisfied according to moderacion th^t^ th^e^ Towne busines may go on cheerfully.

That th^e^ business of th^e^ Rate, paid by so many already, be finished.

That th^e^ old Customs of order be kept in our meetings and th^e^ unruly be reproved, or upon obstinacie cast out from Sober and free mens Company.

That our ancient use of Arbitracion be brought in esteem again

That it being constantly reported th^t^ Conecticut is upon th^e^ gaining of his Maties consent to enslaue us to their parish worship: We consider what we ought to doe.

Yo^r^ ancient and unworthy
friend ROGER WILLIAMS

[Endorsed:] "The Latter p^rt^ of this bill was Referd."

[1] The original letter is in the Providence Town Papers, no. 01099.

TO THE TOWN OF PROVIDENCE (undated)[1]

I pray th^e^ Towne in th^e^ sence of th^e^ Late bloudie practices of th^e^ Natiues to giue leaue to so many can agree with Wm Field to bestow some charge upon fortifying his howse for a securitie to woman and children: Allso to giue me leaue, and so many as shall agree, to put up some Defence on th^e^ hill betweene th^e^ Mill and th^e^ Highway, for th^e^ like safetie of th^e^ women and children in that part of th^e^ Towne

I pray the Towne to provide some easie way for th^e^ trying of small causes

Allso th^t^ th^e^ Fee appointed in this Towne to an Attourney may be moderated

Allso th^t^ some speedie course of satisfying for killing a wolfe may be appointed

It: th^t^ vexatious and revengefull Suing each th^e^ other may be supprest.

R. W.

BENEFIT STREET IN 1798.

In 1798, when war with France was contemplated, Congress imposed upon the country a direct tax of two million dollars. Apportioned in the manner required by the Constitution, this involved the raising of $37,502.08 in Rhode Island; and that sum was levied on the state by the act of July 14, 1798, ch. 75. The tax was to be assessed upon dwelling-houses, lands and slaves, with reference to the date October 1, 1798. The assessment was arranged for by act of July 9 of that year, ch. 70. The provisions of the act required three

[1] The original letter is in Providence Town Papers, no. 01184. The first paragraph of this letter was printed in the *Newport Mercury* of Nov. 1, 1856.

lists to be made in each locality. Their contents may best be indicated by the following quotations from sections 8 and 9 of the act:

"Every dwelling house above the value of one hundred dollars, with the out-houses thereto appurtenant, and the lot on which such dwelling house and out-houses are erected, not exceeding two acres, in any case, shall be valued at the rate such dwelling house, with the lot and appurtenances aforesaid, are worth in money with a due regard to situation. All lands and town lots, except lots on which dwelling houses above the value of one hundred dollars, with their appurtenances, are erected as aforesaid, shall be valued by the quantity, either in acres, or square feet as the case may be, at the average rate which each separate and entire tract or lot is worth in money, in a due relation to other lands and lots, and with reference to all advantages, either of soil or situation, and to all buildings and other improvements of whatever kind, except dwelling houses above the value of one hundred dollars, and the out-houses appurtenant thereto. — And all slaves, whether negroes, mulattoes or mestizoes, above the age of twelve, and under the age of fifty years, shall be enumerated in the assessment district in which they may, respectively, be kept or employed at the time of the enumeration, except such as from some fixed infirmity, or bodily disability, may be incapable of labor: Provided, That all property of whatever kind, coming within any of the foregoing descriptions, and belonging to the United States, or any state, or permanently exempted from taxation by the laws of the state wherein the same may be situated or possessed, shall be exempted from the aforesaid valuation and enumeration. . . . .

"And the said lists shall specify in respect to dwelling houses, their situation, their dimensions or area, their number of stories, the number and dimensions of their windows, the materials whereof they are built, whether wood, brick or stone, the number, description and dimensions of the out-houses

appurtenant to them, and the names of their owners or occupants: And in respect to lands, the said lists shall specify the quantity of each separate tract or lot, the number, description and dimensions of all wharves and buildings thereon, except dwelling houses above the value of one hundred dollars, and the out-houses appurtenant thereto; the name of the owner or occupant; and the quantity of land which such owner or occupant may claim, as entitled to exemption under this act, with the circumstances whereon the claim rests; and in respect to slaves, the said lists shall specify the number above the age of twelve, and under the age of fifty years, owned or possessed by, or under the care of each person, with the name of such person."

According to these statutory provisions, lists were made out in and for Providence. Those which relate to dwelling-houses and to lands are preserved in the library of the Rhode Island Historical Society. They are contained in twenty-one large thin blank-books, specially prepared for the purpose, of which ten, called "A Books," relate to the dwelling-houses and their lots, and eleven, called "B Books," to the vacant, or nearly vacant, lots of land. Each page of the "A" books has the printed heading: "Particular List or Description of each Dwelling-House, which, with the Out-Houses appurtenant thereto, and the Lot on which the same are erected, not exceeding two Acres in any Case, were owned, possessed, or occupied, on the 1st Day of October, 1798, in the Town of Providence, being within the Assessment District of Providence in the State of Rhode-Island and exceeding in Value the Sum of One Hundred Dollars." The remainder of the page is ruled in columns, with printed headings for the name of the occupant or possessor, the name of the owner, the description of the house (situation, dimensions, number of stories, number and dimensions of windows, building material), the number of houses claimed to be exempted from valuation, the number of dwelling-houses and outhouses admitted

to be subject to valuation, the quantity of land in the lot, the valuation of the whole by the assistant assessor, and the valuation of the whole by the principal assessor. Each page of the "B" books bears the printed heading: "Particular List or Description of all Lands, Lots, Buildings and Wharves, owned, possessed or occupied on the first Day of October, 1798, in the Town of Providence, being within the Assessment District of Providence in the State of Rhode-Island, excepting only such Dwelling-Houses as with the Out-Houses appurtenant thereto, and the Lots on which they are erected, not exceeding two Acres in any Case, are above the Value of One Hundred Dollars." The remainder of the page is ruled in columns, which bear headings similar to those in the "A" books, but with such changes as might be appropriate to a list having reference primarily to lands rather than to dwelling-houses.

This Providence Domesday obviously presents many points of interest; but its total mass is too great to permit of the printing in this journal of anything more than a specimen of its contents. Choice has been made of the entries relating to property on Benefit Street, as likely to be of more general interest than any other series that could be selected. These entries, picked out from the various places in which they occur in the different "A" and "B" books, have been arranged in an alphabetical order of owners. It has not been thought necessary to reproduce all the classes of facts contained in the old blank-books. Those who wish to know the number and dimensions of the windows in their ancestors' dwellings, for instance, may be respectfully referred to the original manuscripts. The nature of the data here copied may readily be seen, after what has been said above, from the headings of the columns on the subsequent pages.

Fifty years before the date of this survey, *i. e.*, in 1748, Stephen Hopkins made a plan of Benefit Street, which may be seen among the "Original Plats of Streets and Highways,"

Vol. I., p. 17, at the City Hall. Another opportunity to compare the Benefit Street of 1798 with the same highway in an earlier condition is presented by a document in the handwriting of Dr. Usher Parsons preserved among the Moses Brown Papers, (XVIII. 73), entitled "Reminiscences of Wm. Wilkinson given me of Providence in 1770." It is of much topographical interest, and is here prefixed to the data of 1798.

BENEFIT STREET IN 1770.

On Benefit Street there were on the west side the old town house.

Next north, the Holden house opposite Rd. Watermans.

Next, the Court house then built 6 years. the former one stood near it where the Brick school house is.

Next, the Jail opposite the present Saml. Veasy house. the old jail that preceeded it stood at the corner south of the mansion house.

On the opposite side south of Olneys lane the present small brick house.

Next, the Henry Soule house next to Mr. Dorrs north.

Next, the Jackson house (grandfather of Richard Jackson) the house next south of Mr. Dorrs.

Next, the ruins of the old jail before mentioned.

Next, the Bowen house a red gamble roofed near Beckwith's north.

Next, the Bennet Hall now the 2nd house east in Transit St on the south side — Transit Street not opened.

Next, were four of five houses at Tockwotten, one of them was built and owned by Cole a lawyer (now mine).

Benefit Street was then crossed by quaker lane running along the north side of the Mansion house opened by Moses Brown.

Next, jail lane now meeting street which ran over the hill.

Next, College Street.

Next, Power Street which ran over to Hope Street.

BENEFIT STREET

Occupant or Possessor.	Owner.	Dwelling-houses.	Outhouses.	Perches.	Square feet.	Valuation.
Cornel: G. Bowler	Amos Allen . .	1	1	9	50	1,200
Amos Allen . .	Amos Allen . .			11	205¼	150
Joseph Allen . .	Joseph Allen .	1	1	12	209	1,000
Samuel Allen .	Saml Allen . .			39	182	800
Zachah Allen .	Zachh Allen . .			14	88	1,600
Abner Metcalf .	Elisha Angell .			8	192	150
James Arnold, heirs . . .	Jas Arnold, heirs . . .		1 acre	40		2,000
James Arnold, heirs . . .	Jas Arnold, heirs . . .			16	244	300
Welcome Arnold, Heirs . . .	Welcome Arnold, heirs. . . .			28	177	500
Willm Ashton jun.	Wm Ashton jun.	1		12	133	1,000
Willm Ashton jun.	Wm Ashton jun.			64	177	1,000
David L. Barns .	David L. Barnes		6 acres			1,100
Benevolent Congregational Society	Benevolent Congregational Society			132	64	Exempt
Robert Blin, Heirs	Robt Blin, Heirs	1				50
Isaac Bowen . .	Isaac Bowen .	1		9	50	750

IN 1798.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.

E on Benefit Street, N on Star Lane, 33 by 27 feet, 2 Stories Wood, one Work Shop 20 by 16 feet, 2 Stories Wood.

A Lot, E on Bennefit Street, W on the Church Burying Ground.

E on Benefit Street, N on Thos L. Halsey, 28 by 27 feet, 2 Stories, Wood. a Wood house 14 by 20, 1 Story, Wood.

a Lot E on Benefit Street 120 feet, N on Town's Land 90 feet, an old Barn thereon 20 feet square, 2 stories Wood.

A Lot W on Benefit Street, S on John Mawney.

One Lot of Land on Benefit Street, 30 by 79 feet, E on sd Street, N on Squire Thurber, S on Josh Whipple.

E on Benefit Street, S on heirs of Wm Tillinghast.

a Lot W on Benefit Street 46 feet, N on Jno I. Clark 100 feet.

a Lot E on Benefit Street 78 feet, S on Land of the Episcopal Church 100 feet. a Barn thereon 26 by 21 feet, Wood. a small Building 18 by 20 feet, 1 Story Wood, erected for an Attorney's Office.

E on Benefit Street, N on Danl Olney, 38 by 30 feet. 2 Stories Wood, unfinish'd.

a Lot N on Jno Sabins & W. Thayer 176 feet, E 100 feet partly on Danl Olney & partly on Benefit Street.

Situated in the Northerly part of the Town of Providence, E on Benefit Street, N on Josh Jenckes, S on Heirs of Charles Keen = 6 Acres. Valued @ $1,100.

a Lot W on Benefit Street 80 feet, S on Charles Feild Heirs 450 feet, a Meeting house for public Worship thereon for the use of Sd Society, 87 by 71 feet, 2 Stories, Wood.

an Old Dwelling house W on Benefit Street, 16 by 20 feet, 1 Story Wood, on Land belongs to Christo Sheldon.

E on Benefit Street, W on Zebs Farnum, 26 by 16 feet, 2 Stories Wood.

Occupant or Possessor.	Owner.	Dwelling-houses.	Outhouses.	Perches.	Square feet.	Valuation.
Isaac Bowen . .	Isaac Bowen .			9	50	400
Edward Mason .	Jabez Bowen .	1		29	104¾	500
William Bowen .	Wm Bowen . .			41	18	500
John Brown . .	John Brown . .			40		800
Joseph Brown, Heirs . . .	Joseph Brown, Heirs . . .			5	74	150
Wilm Almy . .	Moses Brown .	1		39		1,000
Newport Brown .	Newport Brown, negro . . .	1				50
Nichº Brown, Heirs . . .	Nichº Brown, Heirs . . .		4 acres	20	15	1,400
Nichº Brown, heirs . . .	Nichº Brown, heirs . . .			20	75	300
Nobody . . .	Richard Brown	1		9	49¾	250
James Burr . .	James Burr . .	1		17	171½	1,000
Levi Burr . .	Levi Burr . .	1		6	130½	500
Benj'ª Carlisle, Samˡ Carlisle .	Benj'ª Carlisle, Samˡ Carlisle			18	99	200
John Carlisle . .	John Carlisle .	1	1	6	202	1,000
Elizª Carlisle .	John Carlisle, Decd heirs .	1		7	38	1,200
Jnº Carlisle . .	Jnº Carlisle . .					200
John Carter . .	John Carter . .			53	210¾	600

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.

a Lot E on Benefit Street 50 feet, N on Stephen Harris 50 feet, a Work Shop thereon 12 by 30 feet, 2 Stories Wood.

W on Benefit Street, N on Arthur Fenner, 30 by 24 feet, one & ½ Stories, Wood.

a Lot W on Benefit Street 86 feet, N on Street lead.s to the College 130 feet.

a Lot W on Benefit Street, N on Brown & Ives.

a goring Lot, North Side of George Street, W on Benefit Street 16 feet, widening at the East end to 25 feet, N on Nichº Brown heirs 70 feet.

A House 40 by 30 feet, 2 Stories wood, N by David Howell, W by Benefit Street, S. Angell Street.

W on Benefit Street, N on Wm Bowen, 10 by 20 feet, 1 Story Wood, on Land of the Heirs of Joseph Brown.

a Lot W on Benefit Street, S partly on Jnº Brown & partly on a Road.

a Lot W on Benefit Street 60 feet, S on Joseph Brown's heirs 92 feet.

W on Benefit Street, N on Bernon Dunn, 24 by 24 feet, 2 Stories Wood. almost in Ruins. (no Windows.

E on Benefit Street, N on Wm Snow, 33 by 27 feet, 2 Stories Wood.

W on Constitution Street, E on Benefit Street, 33 by 26 feet, 2 Stories Wood.

a Lot E on Benefit Street 40 feet, N on Jnº Carter 125 feet.

E on Benefit Street, S on Jesse Cook's heirs, 27 by 29 feet, 2 Stories Wood. a Wood house 20 by 10, 1 Story Wood.

E on Benefit Street, S on Jnº Carlisle, 36 by 29 feet, 2 Stories Wood.

a Work Shop, 22 by 40 feet, 3 Stories Wood, on Land of Rebeckah Williams, E on Benefit Street.

a Lot 122 by 120 feet, a Barn thereon by feet, E on Benifit Street, N on Goal Lane, S on Knight Dexter.

Occupant or Possessor.	Owner.	Dwelling-houses.	Outhouses.	Perches.	Square feet.	Valuation.
John I. Clark .	Jn° I. Clark . .	1	1	57	146	6,000
John I. Clark .	Jn° I. Clark . .			44	20	800
John I. Clark .	Jn° I. Clark . .			44	20	500
Sam! W. Green .	Clark & Nightingale . . .	1		6	166	1,250
Clark & Nightingale	Clark & Nightingale. . . .			18	265	300
Ephraim Congdon	Eph^m Congdon .			37	6	600
Heirs of Jesse Cooke . . .	Heirs of Jesse Cooke . . .			16	234	250
And^w Cozens .	Andrew Cozens.	1		18	19¼	250
Chris Crapon .	Chris Crapon .	1		6	127	500
	Heirs of Jo^s Crawford . .		4 acres			1,200
	Heirs of Jo^s Crawford . .			41	42¾	500
Samuel Currie .	Samuel Currie .			6	126½	100
Hannah Cushing	Hannah Cushing			15	216¼	350
Hann^h Cushing.	Hannah Cushing			20	75	320
Abner Daggett .	Abner Daggett .	1	2	29	24¾	1,000

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.

W on Benefit Street, N on a gangway, 49 by 45 feet, 3 Stories Wood. a Wood house, 18 by 30, Wood 1 Story.

a Lot on Benefit Street Westy 60 feet, S on Chris Arnold's heirs 200 feet, a Barn thereon 20 by 24 feet, 2 Stories Wood.

a Lot E on Benefit Street 60 feet, N on Jnº & Jesse Sabins 200 feet.

E on Benefit Street, S on Thos L. Halsey, 38 by 34 feet, 2 Stories Wood.

a Lot at the Sº End E on Benefit Street 63 feet, S on Christº Sheldon 82 feet.

a Lot E on Benefit Street 36 feet, S on Saml. Godfrey 280 feet, a Work Shop thereon, 12 feet square, 1 Story Wood.

a Lot E on Benefit Street 45 feet, N on Jnº Carlisle 102 feet.

Situated, North end of the Town House 25 by 25 feet, one Story Wood. Lot 41 by 120 feet, E on the Strt, N by Moses Brown.

E on Benefit Street, S on Clark & Nightingale, 18 by 28 feet, 2 Stories Wood.

a Lott of Land S on Benevolent St, W on Benefit St.

a Lott E on Benefit St, N. on land of John Rogers.

A Lott East side of Benefit Street, 22 by 80 feet, on it is a Barn 22 by 25 feet Wood, Bounds W on sd Street, N on a Lane.

A Lott North of the State House, 50 by 86 feet, a Barn 15 by 15 feet wood. E. on Benefit Streett, N on Jonathn Treadwell.

A Lott Et on Benefit Street 46 by 120 feet, E on sd Street, N. on Stephen Harris.

House East side of Benefit Street, 38 by 28 feet, 2 Stories Wood, a Wood House 18 by 14 feet, 1 Story, & a Barn 26 by 24 feet, Lot on which they Stand 48 feet front by 180 feet, terminating in the Rear with only 40 feet. W on sd Street, N on Gangway.

Occupant or Possessor.	Owner.	Dwelling-houses.	Outhouses.	Perches.	Square feet.	Valuation.
William Church & Widow Sinkins	Jn° Davis & Widow Sinkins	1		4	151	750
John Davis & Widow Sinkins	John Davis & Widow Sinkins			4	136	200
Knight Dexter .	Knight Dexter .	1	1	23	218¼	1,150
K. Dexter . .	Knight Dexter .			23	218¼	300
Stephen Dexter .	Stephen Dexter			65	105	1,000
Thomas Dring .	Thomas Dring .	1		10	157	1,200
Bernon Dunn .	Bernon Dunn .	1	1	17	24	450
J(am)s Burr . .	Eliphalit Dyer of Connecticut .			40	110	400
Charles Feild heirs . . .	Charles Feild heirs . . .			55	25	1,000
Charles Feild heirs . . .	Charles Feild heirs . . .		8 acres			2,000
Arthr Fenner .	Arthur Fenner .			56	26½	450
Arthr Fenner .	Arthur Fenner .			90	204½	1,000
Gilbert Fuller .	Gilbert Fuller .	1		9	270	750
Chris & Richd Godfrey . .	Chris & Richd Godfrey . .			54	219	800
Samuel Godfrey,	Saml Godfrey, .			53	121	800

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.

E on Benefit Street, W on Wm Tillinghast heirs, 30 by 23 feet, 2 Stories & back kitchin 13 by 8, 1 Story Wood.

a Lot E on Benefit Street 49 feet, N on a Burying Ground 25 feet.

A House on Benefit Street, 33 by 28 feet, 2 Stories Wood, an out House 36 by 18 feet, used for Chaise & Wood House. Lot on which they Stand 40 by 162 feet, W on s^{d} Street, S on a Gangway.

A Lot 162 by 40 feet, N on his other Lot, W on Benefit Street.

W on Benefit Street 89 feet, N on Rebeckah Williams 200 feet, a Barn thereon, 34 by 24 feet, 2 Stories Wood.

E on Benefit Street, S on Thos P. Ives, 32 by 34 feet, 2 Stories Wood.

House north end of Town 29½ by 16¾ feet, 2 Stories front & 1 story Back, Brick. S on Richard Brown, E. & N on Ezek^{l} Burr.

A Lot east side of Benefit Street, 50 by 220 feet, W on said Street, N and E on Zacha^{h} Allen.

a Lot E on Benefit Street 100 feet, N on Simon Smith 150 feet.

a Lot W on Benefit Street, S on Jno & Nich^{o} Brown, an Old Barn thereon, Wood, 24 by 26 feet, a d^{o} Wood, 15 by 19.

A Lot east side of Benefit Street, 100 feet E. end, 105 W end, 149 feet long. Bounded N. on Nath^{n} Waterman, S. on Jabez Bowen with a Barn 26 by 26 feet.

A Lot 107 by 231 feet, a Barn thereon 26 by 26 feet. N. on Richd Jackson, S on Jabez Bowen, E on Benefit Street.

W on Benefit Street, N on Caleb Ormsbe, 20 by 30 feet, 2 Stories Wood.

a Lot W on Benefit Street 133 feet, narrowing as it runs East^{y} to 70 feet at the East end—S on Jos Tillinghast 147 feet—

a Lot E on Benefit Street 50 feet, S on Jno & Jesse Sabins 290 feet.

Occupant or Possessor.	Owner.	Dwelling-houses.	Outhouses.	Perches.	Square feet.	Valuation.
Jabez Gorham .	Jabez Gorham .	1		12	95	1,000
John Griffiths .	Jn° Griffiths . .	1				20
Samuel Weeks .	Tho$ L. Halsey	1		18	99	300
Joshua Smith .	Tho$ L. Halsey	1		9	70	300
Thomas L. Halsey	Tho$ L. Halsey			24	216	220
Stephen Harris .	Stephen Harris .	1		34	193½	1,300
Joshua Weeks & others . . .	Stephen Harris .	1	1	5	138¾	320
Charles Holden .	Charles Holden	1	1	8	222	1,000
David Howell .	David Howell .	1	1	38	54½	1,850
John Howland .	John Howland .	½		3	83¼	500

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.

One House Lot situated on the west side of Benefit Street, 41 by 82 feet: House thereon 34 by 28 feet, two stories wood. E on s^{d} Street, S on Star Lane.

an Old Dwelling house 10 feet square, Wood, 2 Stories, on land improv^{d} as a Burying Ground on Benefit Street.

W on Benefit Street, N on Wilkinson's Land, 24 by 14 feet, 1 Story, Wood.

E on Benefit Street, S. on Joseph Allen, 26 by 12 feet, 1 Story, Wood.

a Lot E on Benefit Street 50 feet, S on John Whipple 135 feet.

A House Lot situated on the East side of Benefit Street, 60 feet front, running 90 feet back, measureing only 50 feet at the Back End, thence back 90 feet, holding the width of 50 feet, with a Dwelling House thereon 29 by 38 feet, 2 Stories wood. N on Saml Jackson, S on Hannah Cushing, W on s^{d} Street.

One Lot on Benefit Street, south part of the Town, 25 by 60 feet, a House thereon 16 by 26 feet, two stories Wood; also a Coopers Shop owned by John Arnold & Joshua Weeks, E on Said Street, S on Dyer Farnum.

A Lot of Land situated on Benefit Street, 48 feet by 78 feet, terminating with only 32 feet at the West end, Dwelling House on it 40 by 34 feet, 2 Stories Wood—a Barn 20 by 13 feet, E on s^{d} Street, N. on Nathan Waterman S. on

A house Lot situated on Benefit Street, 40 by 260 feet, on it a House 32 by 36 feet, with an L or Adition back 20 feet by 35 feet, all 2 stories wood, also a Barn 30 by 32 feet, W on s^{d} Street, E on a Gangway, N on Rufus Waterman & Nathan Angell. Valued at $1850.

One half of a House & Lot in C^{o} with the Heirs of John N. Russell, situated on Benefit Street: Lot 40 by 90 feet; House 34 by 28 feet, two stories wood, E on s^{d} Street, W on Samuel Packard.

Occupant or Possessor.	Owner.	Dwelling-houses.	Outhouses.	Perches.	Square feet.	Valuation.
Nancy Hoyle .	Nancy Hoyle .	1				50
Thos. P. Ives . .	Thos. P. Ives .			56	34	1,000
Richard Jackson	Richd Jackson .			84	30¼	1,000
Samuel Jackson .	Samuel Jackson .	1		19	27¼	700
Joseph Jenckes .	Joseph Jenckes .	1		9	39¾	1,500
David L. Barns .	Joseph Jenckes .			24	256	450
Ann Keen . .	Charles Keen Heirs of— .		2 acres	14	148½	250
Edward Knowles	Edwd Knowles .	1		11	190½	1,000
Edward Knowles	Edward Knowles			11	190½	300

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.

a Dwelling house on Land belongs to the Heirs of Nichº Power between Water & Benefit Streets, 16 by 20 feet, 1 Story, Wood.

a Lot E on Benefit Street 120 feet, extending that width back 56 feet, then narrows to 108 feet, that width 60 feet further back, then narrows to 40 feet, 52 feet further back. W on his own Land, S on Jnº Rogers, on which is a Barn 20 by 30 feet, 2 Stories Wood, a Chaise house 34 by 12, 1 Story Wood.

One Lot of Land, E. on Benefit Street, N on charles Holden, W on his House Lot, S on Arthur Fenner contains 100 by 228 feet, on it a Barn 28 by 24 feet.

A House Lot situated on Benefit Street, 40 by 130 feet, on it a House 28 by 24 feet, two Stories wood, W on sd Street, S on Stephen Harris—House very old.

One House Lot on the North part of Benefit Street, 41½ feet by 60 feet, on which is a House 40 by 30 feet, with an Addition of one Room 15 by 10 feet, House 2 Stories all wood. Bounded E N & S by his own Land, (said premises being all in the Right of his wife)—W. by sd Street.

One Garden Lot back of his House near the Market House 40 by 160 feet and a Gangway 13 by 30 feet. N on Jabez Bowen, S. on Ephm Bowen & Heirs of Saml Westcott & Coledge Lane. W. on his House Lot, E. on Benifit Street.

One Lot of Land North part of the Town containing 2 1/11 Acres, W on Benefit Street, N. on the Heirs of Jnº Jenckes, S. on Melzar Packard & Thos L. Halsey.

One House Lot situated on Benefit Street, 46½ by 68½ feet, on it a House 30 by 36 feet, 2 Stories wood: a small part only that is finished, E. on sd Street, W. on Syrel Dodge, N. on his other Lot, S. on Meeting Lane.

One Lot of Land situated on Benefit Street 46½ feet by 68½ feet; on which there is a Shop 18 by 25 feet, wood; E. on sd Street, N. on Nathan Angell, S. on his House Lot, W. on Syrel Dodge.

Occupant or Possessor.	Owner.	Dwelling-houses.	Outhouses.	Perches.	Square feet.	Valuation.
Stephen Dexter .	John Low . .	1		17	52	2,500
Sam[l] Ba(s)to . .	John Mawney .			35	77¼	250
Jon[a] Cady . .	John Mawney .			23	138¼	200
Jon[a] Cady . .	John Mawney .			25	233¾	250
Joel Metcalf . .	M. & Joel Metcalf . . .	1		11	205¼	700
Nathan Miller .	Nathan Miller .	1	1	9	149¾	550
Joseph Nightingale Heirs . .	Joseph Nightingale Heirs .	1	3	89	172	8,000
Joseph Nightingale heirs . .	Joseph Nightingale heirs . .			50		1,000
Joseph Nightingale heirs . .	Joseph Nightingale heirs . .			19	233	300
Daniel Olney .	Dan[l] Olney . .	1		10	245	1,200
S. H. Olney . .	Simeon H. Olney			25		250
Caleb Ormsbe .	Caleb Ormsbe .	1		9	160	700
Jn[o] Truman & others . . .	James Ormsbe .	1		2	265	600

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.

E on Benefit Street, S on Joseph Nightingale's Heirs, 40 by 37 feet, 3 Stories Wood.

A Lot of Land, E. on Benefit Street, N on John Updike, W & S on his other Lands, 60 by 160 feet ; with a Barn thereon owned by Henry Rice.

A Lot of Land, E on Benefit Street, W N & S on his other Lands, on it a dwelling House in the Rear belonging to Jonathan Cady ; Lot 40 by 160 feet.

A Lot of Land E on Benefit Street, W & N on his other Lands, S on Jonathan Treadwell, 44 by 160 feet.

One House Lot on Benefit Street, 40 by 80 feet, on it an old Dwelling House, 33 by 27 feet, 2 Stories Wood ; E. on Benefit Street, N, on Thos. L. Halsey, W. on Church Yard, S. on Amos Allen.

A House Lot on Benefit Street, North End of the Town 72 by 36 feet, E on s^d^ Street, S on Thos Arnold, on it a House 18 by 27 feet, part one & part two Stories, wood ; also a Barn 20 by 20 feet.

W on Benefit Street, S on Rebeckah Williams, 54 feet square. 3 Stories Wood. 2 Out houses each 22 by 36 feet, 2 Stories Wood, 1 Wood house 13 by 54, 1 Story Wood—

a Lot W on Benefit Street 82 feet, S on their own Land 166 feet, this is the Average measure, the Lot not being Square.

a Lot E on Benefit Street 53 feet, S on Richd Low 102 feet.

E on Benefit Street, S on William Ashton jun., 32 by 36 feet, 2 Stories, with an Out kitchin 6 by 10, 1 Story Wood.

A Lot of Land on Benefit Street, 5 Rods square, Bounded W by Benefit Street, S by Rufus Waterman.

W on Benefit Street, N on Jno Ormsbe's heirs, 20 by 30 feet, 2 Stories Wood.

W on Benefit Street, E on Brown & Ives, 25 by 20 feet, 2 Stories Wood.

Occupant or Possessor.	Owner.	Dwelling-houses.	Outhouses.	Perches.	Square feet.	Valuation.
James Ormsbe .	James Ormsbe .			3	256	200
David Arnold & others . . .	John Ormsbe Heirs . . .	1		13	61	500
Melzar Packard .	Melza Packard .					80
Mary Peckham heirs . . .	Mary Peckham heirs . .			5		100
Seth Fisher . .	Silas Peckham .	1		8	222	750
Nancy Hoyle .	Heirs of Nich. Power Dec^{d} .			14	28	200
Benj^{a} Reynolds .	Benj^{a} Reynolds .	1		16	219	1,100
Stephen Amidon	Henry Rice . .	1	1	37	89¼	2,300
Saml Ba(s)tow .	Henry Rice . .		1 barn			100
Nathl Richmond Heirs of . .	Nathl Richmond Heirs of . .	1	1	11	205¼	800
Nathl Richmond Heirs of . .	Nathl Richmond Heirs of . .			23	138¼	150
Isaac Boorom .	John Rogers .	1		5	239	500
Heirs of Jno N. Russell . . .	John Newton Russell Heirs of	1		6	166	500

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.

a Lot W on Benefit Street 29 feet, N on Christº Sheldon 37 feet, a Barn thereon 14 by 36 feet, 2 Stories Wood.

W on Benefit Street, S on Caleb Ormsbe, 32 by 30 feet, 1 Story Wood.

A Carpenter Shop 28 by 16 feet, 2 stories wood, on a Lot belonging to Seth Wheaton, East side of Benefit Street.

a Lot E on Benefit Street 17 feet, S. on Silas Peckham 80 feet.

E on Benefit Street, S on Simon Smith, 24 by 30 feet, 2 Stories Wood.

a Lot between Water & Benefit Streets, W on a gangway 40 feet, S on Saml. Carlisle 96 feet.

A House Lot on Benefit Street, 44 by 104 feet, E on said Street, S on Church Lane. a dwelling House thereon 38 by 33 feet, two Stories Wood.

A House Lot on Benefit Street near the State-House, 77 by 132 feet, N on a Gangway, S on Benjª Taylors Lot, on which Described Lot is a House 42 by 37 feet, three Stories Wood, with an Adition or Hall adjoining sd House 57 by 27 feet, one Story Wood, and a Barn & Shed 70 by 17 feet, wood.

A Barn 30 feet by 30 feet, standing John Mawneys Lot, on Benefit Street.

A House Lot on Benefit Street, 40 by 80 feet. E on sd Street, W. on Church Lands, S. on Seth Wheaton, on it a Dwel.g House 36 by 30 feet, 2 Stories Wood, & a Wood House 12 by 16 feet.

A Lot of Land east side of Benefit Street, 40 by 160 feet, W on said Street, S on Knight Dexter, N on Heirs of Nathal Wheaton.

E on Benefit Street, N on Thoª P. Ives, 22 by 20 feet, 2 Stories Wood.

One half of a House & Lot on Benefit Street in Cº with John Howland. Lot 40 by 90 feet, House 34 by 28 feet, two Stories wood. E on said Street, W on Saml Packard, Half the Lot is 20 by 90 feet.

Occupant or Possessor.	Owner.	Dwelling-houses.	Outhouses.	Perches.	Square feet.	Valuation.
Jn° & Jesse Sabins	Jn°& Jesse Sabins			18	139	300
Joshua Salisbury	Joshua Salisbury	1		22	101½	800
Christ° Sheldon .	Chris Sheldon .		7 acres	80		6,000
Christ° Sheldon .	Chris Sheldon .			79	262	1,350
Mary Simmons Sarah Westcott Jere Westcott	Mary Simmons Sarah Westcott Jere Westcott	1		6	16	800
Henry Smith .	Henry Smith .		3 acres			300
John Spu(rs) . .	Jacob Smith . .	1	1	33	15¾	1,300
Nathan[l] Smith .	Nath[l] Smith . .			14	188½	400
Simon Smith . .	Simon Smith .			39	182	700
William Snow .	Wil[m] Snow . .	1		15	206¼	1,000
Samuel Soule .	Samuel Soule .	1		26	221½	950

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.

a Lot E on Benefit Street 18 feet, N on Saml Godfrey 280 feet.

A dwelling House 26 by 21 feet, on the South side of Bowens Lane, it is two Stories wood, on a Lot 60 by 100 feet, E on Benefit Street, N on s^{d} Lane, S on John Updike, W on Zachariah Allen.

a Lot W on Benefit Street, N on Thos Bennet, Welcome Arnold, heirs, & a Family Burying Ground, E partly on Road leading to India point.

a Lot W on Water Street 151 feet, E on Benefit Street 160 feet, N on Clark & Nightingale 140 feet.

S on Wickenden Street, E on Benefit Street, 30 by 25 feet, 2 Stories Wood.

Three Acres of Land, Bounded S on George Street, W on the Back Street, N on Land that belonged to Cyprian Sterry.

A House on the East side of Benefit Street, near the Court House, 50 by 180 feet, W. on s^{d} Street, N. on Heirs of Benj^{a} Cushing, S. on the Heirs of David Wilkinson, on it a House 37 by 30 feet, with an adition at the east end, 42 by 20 feet, all two Stories, & wood, & a wood House 12 by 14 feet, wood.

A House Lot on the West side of Benefit Street 40 by 100 feet, a House Frame thereon 36 by 30 feet, two Stories, Shingled & partly planked, E. on said Street, N. on a Gangway.

a Lot E on Benefit Street 54 feet, S on Charles Feild heirs 200 feet, an Old Barn thereon 20 by 24 feet, Wood.

A dwelling House 32 by 27 feet, two Stories Wood, on a Lot 43 by 100 feet, E on Benefit Street, N on Church Lane, S on Jam^{s} Burr.

A dwelling House 26 by 30 feet, two Stories Wood, on a Lot the East side of Benefit Street, 40 by 180 feet. W on s^{d} Street, N on his other Land, S on Zacha^{r} Allens Land.

Occupant or Possessor.	Owner.	Dwelling-houses.	Outhouses.	Perches.	Square feet.	Valuation.
Samuel Soule .	Sam[l] Soule . .			27	149¼	300
Audry Spalding .	Audry Spalding	1		4	207	800
Audry Spalding .	Audry Spalding			5	223	200
Samuel Staples .	Sam[l] Staples .	1		21	42¾	900
Dan[l] S. Dexter .	Dan[l] Stilwell .	1		13	65	1,400
Dan[l] Stilwell .	Dan[l] Stilwell .			10	77	250
Benj[a] Taylor .	Benj[a] Taylor .	1	1	27	41¼	1,000
Sq[r] Thurber .	Squire Thurber	1		16	264	500
Joseph Tillinghast	Joseph Tillinghast			28	48	500
Town of Providence . . .	Town of Providence . . .	exempt from valuation		(35	47)	
Jon[n] Treadwell .	Jonath[n] Treadwell			24	66	350
John Updike . .	John Updike. .			18	99½	150
John Thompson .	Nath. Waterman	½		17	171¾	440

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.

A Lot of Land on Benefit Street 50 by 150 feet, with a Barn on it 20 by 20 feet, W on s. Street, South on his House Lot, N on Land owned by the Benevolent Society.

E on Benefit Street, S on Power's Lane, 28 by 26 feet, 2 Stories Wood.

a Lot E on Benefit Street 44 feet, N on Saml Weeden & Nathl Bailey 36 feet.

A dwelling House 32 by 28 feet, two Stories wood, on the west side of Benifit Street, on a Lot 72 by 80 feet, E on sd Street, S. by Jabez Gorham.

E on Benefit Street, W on Danl Pearce, 44 by 32 feet, 2 Stories Wood.

a Lot E on Benefit Street 40 feet, W on Danl Pearce & Caleb Godfrey 70 feet.

A Dwelling House 36 by 28 feet, with an Adition 14 by 16 feet, two Stories wood, on a Lot 56 by 132 feet, W on Benefit Street, S on a Lane, N on Henry Rices Lot. Also a Barn on sd described Lot 16 by 24 feet.

A dwelling House 32 by 24 feet, one end three & the other two Stories, wood, only one Room finished, on a Lot 33 by 140 feet, W on Constitution Street, N on a Gangway.

a Lot W on Benefit Street 47 feet, E on heirs of Randal Holden 90 feet, N on heirs of Chriftº Arnold 112 feet.

a Lot E on Benefit Street 84 feet, S on Capt Saml Allen 164 feet, W on David L Barnes & Wm Bowen 159 feet. a Building thereon, Town house, 54 feet square, 2 Stories Wood.

A Barn 24 by 30 feet, on a Lot 55 by 120 feet, E on Benefit Street, N by John Mawney, S by Heirs of Benjn Cushing & Wm Larned.

A Lot of Land 50 by 100 feet, Bounded E on Benefit Street, N on Jnº Mawney, S by Jonn Treadwell.

One half of a dwelling House 30 by 19 feet, one Story wood, also the half of a 40 by 120 feet Lot on which sd House Standeth, Bounded W by Benefit Street, S & E by his other Lands N on Richd Waterman.

Occupant or Possessor.	Owner.	Dwelling-houses.	Outhouses.	Perches.	Square feet.	Valuation.
David Vinton & others . . .	Nath^{n} Waterman			23	238¼	350
Nathan Waterman	Nath^{n} Waterman		15 acres			3,500
Nath^{n} Waterman	Richd Waterman			22	10½	200
Thomas Teal .	Rufus Waterman	1		9	49¾	500
John Thompson .	Rufus Waterman	½		17	171¾	440
Samuel Weeden & Nathl Bailey	Sam. Weeden & Nathl Bailey .	1		12	165	1,000
Samuel Westcott Heirs of . .	Saml Westcott Heirs of . .	1		8	222	550
Seth Wheaton .	Seth Wheaton .		2 acres	120		500
Seth Wheaton .	Seth Wneaton .			13	60¾	110
Azariah Whipple	Azar^{h} Whipple .	1				60

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.

A Lot of Land 65 by 100 feet, Bounded E on Benefit Street, N on President Street, whereon Stands Da^{d} Vintons, Ed^{d} Dexters & Silvester Fullers Houses.

A Lot of Land on the Eastward of Benfit Street, containing 15 Acres, Bounded W:^{y} on s^{d} Street, Arthur Fenner & Rufus & Richd Waterman, N.^{y} on Angell Street, Elisha Rufus & Richd Waterman, S:^{y} by Ruf^{s} Waterman, Colege Land, Jabez Bowens & Arthur Fenners Land, with an old Barn thereon 30 by 24 feet.

A Lot of Land on Benefit Street 40 by 150 feet, Bounded S^{y} by Nathan & Rufus Waterman E on s^{d} Nathan.

A dwelling House 18 by 14 feet, two Stories wood; on a Lot 39 by 100 feet, terminating with only 11 feet width at the east end: Bounded N by Simeon H. Olney, S by David Howell, W by Benefit Street. say Lot 25 by 100 feet.

One half of a House 30 by 19 feet, one Story wood, also the half of a Lot 40 feet by 120 feet on which s^{d} House Standeth, Bounded W by Benefit Street, S & E.^{y} by Nathan Waterman, & N by Richard Waterman. The above owned equally with Nath^{n} Waterman.

E on Benefit Street, N on Joseph Allen, 32 by 24 feet, 2 Stories Wood.

A dwelling House 27 by 24 feet, two Stories wood, a Kitchen adjoining, 10 by 14 feet, on a Lot 60 by 40 feet, (opposite the Town House). Bounded E on Benefit Street, S on the Lane leading to the Colege.

A Lot of Land on Bacon Hill, Bounded E by a Road, N Thos L. Halsey, W Knight Dexter & Benefit Street 42 feet, S on a lot belonging to the Benevolent Society.

A Lot of Land on Benefit Street 45 by 80 feet, Bound^{d} E by s^{d} Street, N Heirs of Nathl Richmond, W Church [ ] S Benj^{a} Reynolds.

A dwelling House 13 by 24 feet, one Story wood, stands on Land owned by Jam^{s} Currie, Bounded E on Benefit Street, N on a Gangway = North part of the Town.

Occupant or Possessor.	Owner.	Dwelling-houses.	Outhouses.	Perches.	Square feet.	Valuation.
Sam[l] Whipple .	Joseph Whipple (Smithfield) .		1 acre			1,000
Samuel Whipple	Sam[l] Whipple .			22	10½	200
Wil[m] Thurber, Aaron Peck & Mary Wilkinson	Mary Wilkinson	1		19	107¼	800
Rebeckah Williams . . .	Rebeckah Williams . . .		12 acres			3,500
Olney Winsor .	Olney Winsor .			14	188	200
Mary Young . .	Mary Young . .			49	174	700

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.

A Lot of Land in the North part of the Town containing one Acre, Bounded E by Benefit Street, W by Constitution Street, S by Sam[l] Whipple, on it a Barn 26 by 24 feet.

A Lot of Land 50 by 120 feet, in the North part of Town, Bounded E on Benefit Street, N by Joseph Whipple, W by his other Land.

A dwelling House 32 by 28 feet, Back part adjoining 20 by 20 feet, all two Stories wood, on a Lot opposite the State House 44 by 120 feet, Bounded W by Benefit Street, N by Jacob Smith, E & S[h] by Tho[s] Lloyd Halsey. House very old.

A Lot E on Brown & Power, N on Estate Jos Nightingale heirs, Hezekiah Cooke & Cha[s] Tillinghast, S on Ashton & others. a Barn thereon 48 feet long, 18 of which is 26 feet wide & 30, 17 feet wide, Wood 2 Story.

a Lot E on Benefit Street 40 feet, N on Nath[l] Smith 100 feet.

a Lot E on Benefit Street 58 feet, S on Stephen Harris 233 feet, an Old Barn thereon 16 feet square.

PAPERS RELATING TO FANTEE.

In the paucity of documentary material bearing on the history of slavery in Rhode Island, a few pieces relating to an individual slave acquire an interest they might not otherwise possess. The following documents, to be found in the Library of the Society in a small collection of manuscript relating to Newport, illustrate the "short and simple annals" of a slave named Fantee. He was the property of Mrs. Roby Whiting of Warren, widow of Captain Nathaniel Whiting.[1] It is not known how the papers came into the possession of the Society.

AGREEMENT.

Warren May 22d 1782.

This Day an agreement is made between Mrs Roby Whiting of Warren, and Edwd Jones, of Providence, for the hire of a Certain Negro Boy Named Fantee, for the space of Twelve Months, for which the said Edwd Jones promises to pay to the said Mrs Whiting, or order, the sum of Fifty-four spanish Mill'd Dollars.

In presence of
Benjn Allen.

Edwd Jones.
Roby Whitting.

EDWARD JONES TO MRS. ROBY WHITING.

Providnce 7th Jany 178[3].

Madam

This Day I recd yours by Fantee, who I have not seen for 16 Days before. he left my house in perfect good humour,

[1] Nathaniel Whiting was married to Roby Luther on September 12, 1771. Arnold, *Vital Records.*

and promis'd to be at home in the Ev.g. during his Absence he employ'd his time in stealing, for which he has been had up, but the people being Quakers, releas'd him. your Friend Mr.s Manning can inform you of his behavour. he has run me in debt about 16 Dollars that I have already heard of, has taken from the house by way of stealth, about [erased] more, that we have already mis'd since the 2d. of last May he has absented himself from my service without leave, 37 Days. I suppose in this case you will do, as you wd. choose others to do by you. Agreeable to yr. desire I have given him all his things and order'd him directly home, tho' I am much blam'd for not putting him in prison. I should be glad you would either bring or send the writing of mine as soon as possible that affairs may be immediately setled. you mention the Ill usage you recd. when at my house, pray do you think it was not merrited? or don't you think that your hireing me a servant posses'd of every vice under heaven for an honest lad, was not an imposition of the grosest kind?

Yrs &c

Edwd Jones

PRESIDENT MANNING TO MRS. ROBY WHITING.

Providence Feby 1st 1783

Madam,

I recd your Letter Night before last. Your By had been at our House the Day before, for a Pair of Shooes and Stockings he left there before, but I was not within. On receiving your Letter I went myself about Town and made Enquiry for him, but could not hear of him after Eleven OClocks that Day. To Day I am informed by Lasell and Mr. Jones that the former took him up yesterday on the Road to Boston, where he had made himself known by stealing a Crown and

... &c. Last Night he was lodg[d] in the Jail ... Town, by the above Gentlemen, where You can find ... I wrote you before a long Letter by him, ... gave an Account of his stealing from a Number of ... amongst the rest a new Barcelona Handkerchief ... &c. but it seems the Rogue had address ... I am

Yours &c

JAMES MANNING.

...

MEMORANDUM.

... at Providance for Fantee.

...	Cloaths	. .	0 6 8
...	... days in Jale	.	0 8 0
...	...	. .	0 6 0
...	... Tavernkeeper	.	0 3 4
...		. .	0 1 3
...	... Rum	. .	0 1 0
			£1 6 3

...

... February 6th 1783

... a Negro Man Slave in ... Risque in the Good ... to Dispose of him for ... to Ship the Net pro- ... Some Other Bottom ... presents and if not ... Cash so that I do ... Said Roby Whitting

She paying for the passage of Said Negro and Commissions as Customary. witness my hand at Warren the day and Year aforesaid.

ISAAC GORHAM.

JAMES BOURN TO MRS. WHITING.

NEWPORT Febr. 15: 1783

I have acording to your request Enquired Concerning of Insurance on your Negro. I dont find any body hear that cares to underwrite upon him till Yesterday Capt Caleb Gardner told me he would insure him the first passage onley Clear of the Enemy for thirty pr. Cent. So that you can think on it and if you would chuse to have it Done Let me know. I would get it Done. Nothing more at present but to acquain[t] you we are all well hopeing you and mr. Sanders family and your Brothers family well Likewise. Remain yours to command

JAMES BOURN

To mrs Robey Whiteing

DEPOSITION.

The Deposition of Isaac Gorham of Warren in the County of Bristol &c Mariner On Oath saith that I the deponent on the 13th day of February AD 1783 Sailed from the port of Warren Master of the Sloop Patty bound to the West Indias and having on board a Negro Man about Eighteen or Twenty Years Old a Healthy Active Lad, the Property of Rhoby Whitting of Said Warren Widdow, and that on the Seventh day of March in the Same year being about four Leagues to windward of Monto Christo was taken by a Brittish Sloop of Warr Called Le Gatroon Command by Benjamin Hulk Esqr. and that Said Negroe was taken on board the Ship whereby he was lost to his Said Mistress and further saith not.

ISAAC GORHAM.

CERTIFICATE.

Bristol ss

In the State of Rhode Island and Providenc Plantations at Warren in the County of Bristol in Said State on the 20th day of July AD 1786 the Fore named Isaac Gorham in his own proper person came and being duely Cautioned and Carefully Examined made a Solemn Oath to the Truth of the foregoing Deposition to be used before the Commissioners Appointed by Act of Parliament of Great Brittain in the tryal of the Claim of Rhobe Whitting of Said Warren Widdow for the Compensation of her loss &c

before me

WILLIAM T. MILLER Justice Quorum

NOTES.

We wish to call especial attention to the *Memorial of Amos Perry*, lately printed for the Society in a pamphlet of sixteen pages. Its publication is a well-deserved tribute to one to whom the Society is immeasurably indebted. A careful and judicious biographical sketch of Mr. Perry, prepared for the New England Historic-Genealogical Society by Mr. Clarence S. Brigham, the present Librarian of the Society, occupies the first ten pages of the pamphlet. Then follows the memorial vote passed by the Society at its meeting of October 3, 1899, and the text of the sympathetic and appreciative remarks made by various members on that occasion. A half-tone portrait of Mr. Perry appears as frontispiece.

Notes and Queries, 5th series, IX. 221, prints a list of Anglican clergymen ordained and licensed for the American colonies from 1699 to 1710, derived from a book of subscriptions to the Act of Uniformity, etc., in the diocese of London, preserved among the Rawlinson MSS. in the Bodleian Library at Oxford. The Rhode Island names in this list are: John Lockier, Rhode Island, Nov. 11, 1701; James Honyman, Long Island, March 23, 170$\frac{2}{3}$; James Honyman, Rhode Island, July 8, 1708.

The American Philosophical Society has in its library at Philadelphia, as was stated in these *Publications* (III. 167), a large mass of the papers of General Nathanael Greene, covering a period of a year and a half, and chiefly composed of the papers of the quartermaster-general's department. Of these papers the Society has now printed, in its *Proceedings*, (XXXIX. 154–344), an elaborate calendar. The documents relate almost exclusively to the years 1778, 1779 and 1780.

They have little to say of battles and sieges, but they illustrate with great completeness the operations of the war on a prosaic but highly important side.

The *New England Historical and Genealogical Register* for July, 1900, contains an article upon Weetamoe, queen of the Wampanoag tribe of Indians, written by Miss Virginia Baker, of Warren, R. I.

The *Historical Discourse* in commemoration of the 125th anniversary of the dedication of the First Baptist Meeting-House delivered by Dr. King on May 27, 1900, has been recently printed.

The Wequetequock Burying Ground Association has printed the account of the exercises at the dedication of the monument erected in memory of William Chesebrough, Thomas Minor, Walter Palmer, Thomas Stanton, the first four settlers of the Town of Stonington.

Robert Grieve has published an interesting pamphlet on the *Commercial Opportunities and Possibilities of Providence.*

Previous Works of the Rhode Island Historical Society, obtainable at the Cabinet.

The Society has issued nine octavo volumes of Collections as follows:—

Vol. 1. *Roger Williams's Key to the Indian Language*, original printed in London, 1644; reprinted by the Society, 1827, pp. 163 $4.00

" 2. *Gorton's Simplicity's Defence*, original, London, 1646; reprint, edited by W. R. Staples, 1835, pp. 278 ..... 3.00

" 3. *Potter's Early History of Narragansett*, 1835, pp. 315; reprinted by William H. Potter, Esq., 1886, with notes and additional matter by Elisha R. Potter; reprint, pp. 423 and xv 5.00

" 4. *Callender's Historical Discourse*, original, 1739; reprint, 1835, edited by Professor Elton, pp. 272 ..... 5.00

" 5. *Staples's Annals of Providence*, 1843, pp. 670 and vi., seldom obtainable at the Cabinet; ordinary price about 10.00

" 6. *Invasion of Canada under Montgomery and Arnold, Thayer's Journal, Revolutionary Correspondence*, etc., 1867, pp. 360 and xxiv 2.50

" 7. *Early attempts at Rhode Island History; Narragansett Indians; R. I. Victories of Natural Science; The British in Rhode Island; First Commencement of Rhode Island College*, etc., 1885, pp. 380 ..... 2.50

" 8. *John Comer's Diary*, 1893, pp. 132 ..... 1.00

" 9. *Dorr's Sketch of the Controversy between the Proprietors and the Freeholders of Providence*, 1897, pp. 141 ..... 1.25

Volumes 3, 4, and 5 of the Collections have long been out of print.

The Society's Proceedings, 1872-92, 21 numbers 16.00

Single numbers of the same, each 1.00

For the *Publications*, see p. 2 of this cover.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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VOL. VIII JANUARY, 1901 NO. 4

WHOLE NUMBER, 32

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PAGE

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[illegible] Committee:

[illegible] M. EATON,

[illegible]

[illegible] October, and January.

[illegible] two sets of the quarterly

[illegible] a volume

PUBLICATIONS

OF THE

RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

VOL. VIII. JANUARY, 1901. NO. 4.

PAPERS OF WILLIAM VERNON AND THE NAVY BOARD, 1776–1794.

IN October, 1775, the Continental Congress formed a Naval Committee, to which the first beginnings of its navy were entrusted. In December, when more ambitious plans were formed, this gave place to a Marine Committee of thirteen, which for nearly three years managed all naval affairs. As the navy increased in size, the duties of that Committee became more arduous, and in October, 1776, Congress appointed to assist them a board of three commissioners, not members of Congress, who attended to the details of naval work at Philadelphia. After a few months, April 19, 1777, a similar board was established for the Eastern states and located at Boston. It consisted of William Vernon of Rhode Island, James Warren of Massachusetts, and John Deshon of Connecticut.[1] Most of its services seem to have been accomplished in the interval between this date and October, 1779, when the Admiralty Board was created, consisting of two members of Congress and three others, under whose charge naval affairs remained until the Secretary of Marine was pro-

[1] As to their election, see John Adams's Works, IX. 465.

vided, in February, 1781. The subsequent history of the navy department does not now concern us.[1]

A large mass of Vernon Papers, destined by the bequest of a former owner to pass ultimately into the possession of the Newport Historical Society, has been placed temporarily in the custody of the chairman of the Publication Committee of this Society, for use in these pages. The use which seemed most expedient was to make a selection, having unity and public interest, from among the letters relating to the business of the Navy Board. The naval history of the Revolution is much less thoroughly known than that of the fighting on land, and here was a large mass of valuable material relating to it. Accordingly the following letters have been selected, either dealing with the history of the Navy Board and the operations of the ships controlled by it, or, as in the case of the letters printed first in order, helping to explain its origin. For the opportunity to print them, the editor is indebted to Mrs. Eli Whitney Blake (Elizabeth Vernon Blake), a great-granddaughter of William Vernon.

William Vernon, the senior member of the Navy Board for the Eastern Department, was born in 1719 and died in 1806. Before the Revolution he was an eminent merchant in Newport. His elder brother Thomas was a Tory, banished by the General Assembly; his diary has been printed by Mr. S. S. Rider as No. 13 of his *Rhode Island Historical Tracts*. But William Vernon was a staunch member of the Revolutionary party, was a member of the committee of correspondence of Newport, and was obliged to leave that town when the British occupied it. William Ellery, the well-known member of the Continental Congress, from whom several of the following letters came, was related to Mr. Vernon, his brother Christopher Ellery having married the daughter of Mr. Vernon's

[1] See J. C. Guggenheimer, The Development of the Executive Departments, in a volume of *Essays in the Constitutional History of the United States* edited by J. F. Jameson.

oldest brother Samuel (1711–1792); and Mr. Vernon's son Samuel (1757–1834), the "Dear Sammy" of some of the letters, married in 1784 the daughter of Christopher Ellery. James Warren, member of the Navy Board, with whom most of the correspondence was carried on, had been sheriff of Plymouth County, and president of the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts. He was an eminent patriot, and was the husband of the celebrated literary lady, Mrs. Mercy Warren.[1] A facsimile of instructions to a privateering captain, showing the signatures of the three members of the Board and the handwriting of their clerk Story, may be seen in Winsor's *Narrative and Critical History of America*, VI. 566.

In connection with the letters to and from John Adams, a few words of explanation may be useful. When Adams sailed for France on the frigate Boston in February, 1778, as envoy of the United States, he found on board Mr. William Vernon, son of William Vernon of the Navy Board, with a letter from the latter requesting that Adams would so far take charge of his son, then recently graduated from the college at Princeton, as to place him in such a situation, and with such a house, preferably at Bordeaux or Nantes, as might fit him in the best manner for a mercantile career. Mr. Vernon's letter is printed in Adams's diary of his voyage.[2] The envoy adds, with reference to William Vernon and Master Jesse Deane, "Thus I find myself invested with the unexpected trust of a kind of guardianship of two promising young gentlemen, besides my own son [John Quincy Adams]. This benevolent office is peculiarly agreeable to my temper. Few things have ever given me greater pleasure than the tuition of youth to the bar, and the advancement of merit." He adds in a note: "I was soon relieved from the principal care of it,

[1] For an account of his life, see Miss Alice Brown's *Mercy Warren*; also *Proceedings Mass. Hist. Soc.*, second series, III. 402.

[2] See *Works of John Adams*. III. 96, 97, 104.

however, for Mr. Vernon chose to remain at Bordeaux, and Mr. Deane", . . . etc.

It remains only to add, that some of the following letters are printed from the original letters received by Mr. Vernon, others from drafts or office-copies preserved by him.

WILLIAM ELLERY TO WILLIAM VERNON.

Novr. 7th 1776.

Sir,

I have laid the Abstract of the Account of Losses sustained by the Inhabitants of our State by the ministerial Fleet stationed formerly in Newport, before the Comm[itt]ee appointed by Congress to collect such Accounts. The Sufferers have nothing to expect from this Quarter, The Design of the Resolve of Congress having been answered another Way. The Intention of Congress was by collecting such Accounts to show to the World the Provocations and Injuries they had sustained from Britain, to vindicate their Conduct; and if a Reconciliation should take Place to endeavour at a Compensation for such Losses; but if there were any Prospects of this Sort they have utterly vanished. If We succeed in the glorious Struggle in which We are engaged, and establish our Independency, perhaps the forfeited Estates in our Commonwealth may be apply'd to the Purpose of compensating the Sufferers. If they should, they will be no great Loosers in the End; and this ought to be a Motive particularly with them to exert themselves in the present War.

Your Son[1] was so good as to visit and take a Breakfast with Me when he was here just before his Graduation. He told me that you had given him the Offer of continuing at College another Year. I recommended it and encouraged

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William or William H. Vernon (1759–1833), as to whom see the preceding page and *R. I. Hist. Tracts*, 13, 137–138.

him to embrace and improve this Opportunity to cultivate the Study of natural Philosophy and the Mathematicks, and to learn the French Language, which possibly may turn out to be more than a bare Accomplishment. George Hazard was with him in a miserable Plight, without Money, Cloaths or Health. He had indulged his volatile Cast too far, left College and been in the Army at Long Island, where he was taken sick, was bro't off in that State when the Island was evacuated, and lost all his Cloaths. He was in a most humble repenting Situation, said that he would again live at College, if it would receive him and his Father would permit it. The College will receive him, and I hope his Father will give him an Opportunity to complete his Education.

Congress publish every Article of Intelligence which they receive and think suitable to publish, therefore give me Leave to refer you to the News-Papers for Intelligence. If any thing should occur before I close this Letter, which is wrote per Saltum as I can catch Time, I will give it to you. I should be glad to know what is the Office of Commissioners of the Navy,[1] and that you would point it out particularly; unless you can refer Me to some Author who particularly describes. The Conduct of the Affairs of a Navy as well as those of an Army We are yet to learn. We are still unacquainted with the systematical Management of them, although We have made considerable Progress in the latter. It is the Duty of every Friend to his Country to throw his Knowledge into the common Stock. I know you are well skilled in Commerce and I believe you are acquainted with the System of the British Navy, and I am sure of your Disposition to do every Service to the Cause of Liberty in your Power.

Novr 10th We are informed this Morning by Express from G. Washington that the Army under Genl Howe had broke up their Encampment and on the 5th of this Month had

[1] *I. e.*, in the British government.

retreated towards Kingsbridge, but whether it was only a Feint and that he meant by making a sudden Wheel to out flank and surround our Army was uncertain, that he had sent off Detachments to harass them in their Retreat and watch their Motions. That if it was a Manoeuvre he should send a Body of his Men over to the Jersey to prevent the Enemy's getting Foot there. That our Loss in the skirmish of Monday fortnight was not great, that the Enemy had lost 400 killed and wounded, and among them Co^{l}. Carr of the 35th That by Advices the Enemy meant to invest Fort Washington. That 70 Transports with 3000 Men were at Redhook, and that it was said that they were destined for Rhode-Island; but that for various Reasons he did not believe it and particularly mentioned that the Season of the Year was against it. That it was more probable that they were destined for the Southward, where they might carry on some Expedition during the Winter. Genl. Mercer in a Letter of the 8th Instant writes that had rec^{d} a Letter from G^{l}. Greene at Fort Lee informing him that about 10,000 of the Enemy had appeared opposite Dob's Ferry and that he imagined they meant to cross the North River &c. M^{r}. Lovell who at length is released from his Captivity in a Letter to a Member of Congress dated at Fort Lee Novr 8th writes that the first of this Instant or the Day before Orders were Issued to get into complete Readiness, Transports for 15,000 (M^{r}. Lovell was then on board a Ship in the Fleet). What the Destination of this Body is, is unknown. some Conjecture they are bound to this City, some that they are bound further to the Southward. I rather think that they are destined for this Place. Time will discover whether Mr Howes Decampment was a Feint or not, whether the Information of M^{r}. Lovell was well founded and what the Destination of the British Troops. I imagin Rhode-Island is not an Object sufficient to engage the Attention of Mr Howe at this Time. to be sure

it would not require so great a Force as 15,000 Men to subdue it. Gen! Mifflin hath wrote to a Friend here that the Comm[itt]ee of Albany had wrote to the Convention of New York that Carleton evacuated Crown Point the 28th of October and had repassed the Lake, and had retreated with his whole Army to Quebec. G. Mifflin's Letter is dated at Peeks-Kiln Novr 10th

Novr 11th This last Article is premature; for Congress hath this Moment recd a Letter from G. Gates by which it appears that Carlton was at Crown Point with his Army.

I would be obliged to you if you would send an Extract of this Letter, to wit, of the News from Novr 10th to Gen! Mifflin's premature Account to Govr Cooke mentioning that you sent it by my Request, and that my Letter to him was in the Post Office when this was wrote otherwise I should not have taken this Way to have conveyed to him. I am Yrs

W. E.

WILLIAM ELLERY TO WILLIAM VERNON.

Baltimore Febr 26th 1777

Dear Sir,

I received your Letter of the 19th of January, and am sorry that you and other Friends of their Country should be compelled to quit their Habitations; but it is the Fortune of War. I wish that you had timely retreated and carried your Effects along with you. However, if I recollect rightly, you had sent off Part of your Furniture to a Place of Safety before I left Newport. I wonder that you should hesitate about my Approbation of your Flight. It would have been worse than Death to you to have been exposed to the Insolence of the Tories. They would have triumphed more at your Captivity than Sawney and his Auditors did when they bid the Gates of Trinity lift up their Heads that they might enter in and devoutly curse the Friends to the Rights of Mankind.

The Time is fast approaching when the proud Hierarchy will sink like a Milstone never to rise any more; when the Sons of Freedom will triumph over the Minions of arbitrary Power. What tho' We should sacrifice our Peace and Interest for a Time, the Cause is worth our Lives. We leave to our Children, to Posterity the most inestimable of all Blessings. This Consideration supports and will I hope support me under all the Calamities I may be called to encounter in the glorious Struggle in which we are engaged.

I inquired of Dr. Witherspoon,[1] after your Son, when the good Doctor was obliged to quit the Jersey; but could get no Information concerning him. Indeed I never heard of him until I received your Letter. I lament with you that he hath been drove from his Studies; for he is an agreeable promising Youth and bids fair to be serviceable to Mankind. I left Philadelphia the 13th of Decr. When I shall return is uncertain but I believe it will be soon; for Congress have the Matter of a Removal thither in Contemplation. When I go there I will see him if he should be there, and give him my best Advice, and hope you will do my Children the same Kindness. Philadelphia is so near the Scene of War, that I am suspicious it will not be favorable to his Studies; for the Muses fly from the Din of Arms. However History may be read and French may be learned without that close and uninterrupted Attention which the severer Studies of Mathematicks and Philosophy demand.

It grieves me to hear that the Continental Seamen have not been paid their Wages and Prize Money. Repeated Orders have been given to the Agent to have it done. The Congress are fully sensible of the Importance of having a respectable Navy, and have endeavoured to form and equip One; but through Ignorance and Neglect they have not been able to accomplish their Purpose yet. I hope however

[1] President of the College of New Jersey.

to see One afloat before long. A proper Board of Admiralty is very much wanted. The Members of Congress are unacquainted with this Department. As One of the Marine Comm[itt]ee I sensibly feel my Ignorance in this Respect. Under a mortifying Sense of this I wrote to you for Information in this Matter. Books cannot be had here; and I should have been glad to have been pointed to proper Authors on this Subject when I should be in a Place where Books may be had. Let me know whether it would suit you to be a Member of a Marine Board. I suppose Congress will institute One with a suitable competent Salary, there Residence to be I presume at Philadelphia. I should be exceedingly glad to be serviceable to you or any of the Friends to Liberty.

Since I wrote the foregoing I have seen and conversed with D^r^. Witherspoon about your Son. He tells me that he left your Son, the 20th of January at Prince-Town,— that he hath the Use of his Books, that at that Place, he can better learn French, pursue other Studies, preserve his Morals and Health, than at Philadelphia. I am intirely of his Opinion. It is true that he may be again driven from Prince-Town; but he is without any Incumbrance, may easily take his cloaths, and push off on the Approach of the Enemy. He might too be drove from Philadelphia if he should reside there. So that upon the whole I think, with the learned D^r^ that Prince-Town is the most eligible Place. We have nothing new. The Enemy we hear are reinforced and it is thought that by their having dragged some heavy Cannon to Brunswick, and some other Circumstances that they mean to make a Movement; but what their Object will be is uncertain. Congress are taking Measures to reinforce Genl Washington, until the regular Army shall be muster'd. Inlistments go on as fast as could be expected; and I hope that we shall early in the Spring have a very respectable Army in the Field, and [*remainder missing*].

WILLIAM ELLERY TO WILLIAM VERNON.

Phil. May 9th 1777

Dear Sir,

Inclosed are Two Resolves of Congress by which you will see that a Navy-Board is established in Massachusetts-Bay, and that you are appointed One of the Commissioners.[1] You will please to let me know as soon as possible whether you accept the Appointment or not. If you should decline the Office you will write to the President and inform him of it. It is expected that you do no other Business while you are a Commissioner. I suppose you are in no great if any Business at present, and I presume the Duties of your Office will take up your whole Attention.

Billy is at Princetown and well. The Armies in the Jersey Statu quo. The main Army fills up fast. The News of Carletons being on the Lake and advancing towards Ticonderoga premature. We have a considerable Body of Troops there in good health and high Spirits. Forward the Expedition agst Rhode-Island with all your might.

I am in haste

Yrs, W ELLERY

P. S. I sealed this before I recd the Copy of the Resolutions and therefore was obliged to break the Seal; and now the Resolve covers the Letter instead of the Letter covering the Resolve.

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[1] See *Journals* of the Continental Congress for April 19, 1777.

THE MARINE COMMITTEE TO THE NAVY BOARD, E. DEPT.

In Marine Committee

Philadelphia June 26th 1777

Gentn

We have the pleasure to transmit to you herein, a Resolution of Congress, appointing you A Navy Board in the Eastern Department to Conduct and manage the business of such part of the Continental Navy as may be Built, bought or fitted from Time to Time in the Four New England States. You are considered by this appointment as a Board of Assistants to the Marine Committee, and subject to their Orders and directions in all such things as are not particularly provided for, by Orders or Resolutions of Congress; and we have now under our consideration a Set of Instructions adapted to the Nature of your business, and the extent of the Powers you are to be Invested with. In the mein time we desire you will meet together soon as Possible, fix on the most convenient place for opening your Office, which we suppose will be at Boston, appoint your clerk, and get all things so arranged as that you may be ready to enter on the Execution of your Duty without delay; and *should* any business *Occur to you as necessary* to be done previous to the receipt of the intended instructions, we hereby Authorize you to do all such things in the Naval department as in your opinion will promote the Service and conduce to the true interest of the United States of America; taking care however that you do nothing that is contrary to, or inconsistent with the Rules, Regulations, Orders, or Resolves of Congress,

which you are in all Instances and on all occasions invariably to pursue and Obey.

We are Gentle^{n}.
Your Obedient Serv^{ts}

JOHN HANCOCK
ROB^{T} MORRIS
HENRY MARCHANT
ROGER SHERMAN
GEO: FROST
PHIL: LIVINGSTON
BENJ^{A} HARRISON
GEO: WALTON

To
Wm Vernon
James Warren
Jno Deshon, Esq.
Navy Board
Eastern Department

THE MARINE COMMITTEE TO THE EASTERN NAVY BOARD.

In Marine Committee
Philadelphia 10 July, 1777

To William Vernon, James Warren, and John Deshon, Esqr.
Whereas by a Resolve of Congress the Nineteenth day of April 1777 You were appointed a Board of Assistants to the Marine Committee, to Reside at or in the Neighbourhood of Boston, in the State of Massachusetts Bay, with Power to adjourn to any Part of New England, and to have the Superintendance of all Naval and Marine Affairs of the United States of America within the four Eastern States under the direction of the Marine Committee, You are immediately to repair to Boston and having there met appoint a Clerk properly Qualified and of undoubted attachment to the Interest and Independence of the United States of America. You are to superintend and direct whatever relates to the Building, Manning, and fitting for Sea all Armed Vessels of the United States built, or ordered by the Congress to build in the

Eastern Department, and to provide all materials and Stores necessary for that purpose, subject to such Orders as you may from Time to Time receive from Congress or the Marine Committee. You are to collect in due season all fit and necessary materials of every kind for the above purposes and such materials as you may not be able to provide and shall Judge necessary to be imported you are timely to report to the Marine Committee the Kinds and Quality of each, and how and upon what terms they may be imported by you or any Persons you may be authorized to appoint within your District. You are to receive and settle all accounts relative to the above business and also all such Accounts as shall be refered to you by the Marine Committee.

You are to keep an exact Register of all the Officers, Sailors, and Marines in the Continental Navy fitted and Manned within your District and the same transmit to the Marine Committee.

You are to require all Captains or Commanders of Continental Arm'd Vessels, coming into any port within your District, to make return to you of the Officers, Sailors and Marines on Board their Vessels, and of the State and Condition of their Vessels and Stores, and you are to transmit Duplicates thereof to the Marine Committee. You are to apply to the Marine Committee from Time to Time for such sums of Money as may be necessary in your Department.

You will cause your Clerk duely to Register every Continental Vessel that hath been, or shall be Built within your district, which Register shall contain the Name, Dimentions, Burthen, Number of Guns, Tackle Apparel and Furniture of the said Vessels and transmit a Copy thereof to the Marine Committee.

You will direct the Oconomy of all Continental Vessels and ascertain the Modes in which their Accounts shall be kept on board and how returns shall be made,— not contrary

to any that may be, or have been directed by Congress or the Marine Committee. you are hereby required to keep fair Books of all expenditures of Publick Moneys for the Navy within your department which Books shall at all Times be subject to the Inspection and examination of Congress and the Marine Committee, or of such Person or Persons as they may Authorize and appoint for that Purpose, and you are to render Accounts of your disbursments Annually or Oftener if required.

You are hereby empower'd to order Courts Martial in all Cases where the Commanding officers shall refuse, or neglect the same, and it shall appear to you requisite; and (in the absence of the Commander in chief) in all cases where the Commander in chief only is Authorized thereto by the Resolutions of Congress. When any Continental Ship of War comes into any port within your District, you are immediately to give Notice to the Marine Committee of her Arrival and the time it will require to fit and equip her for Sea again in Order that Instructions may be sent by said Committee for such Ships future destination.

By order of the Marine Board

JOHN HANCOCK Presid!

THE MARINE COMMITTEE TO THE EASTERN NAVY BOARD.

In Marine Committee
Philadelphia July 11th 1777

Gentlen

As there are now lying within your Department several Continental Vessils of War, which if at Sea might do essential service, we are exceedingly anxious to have them out fore these desirable purposes; and have strong hopes from your

exertions, that they will not remain long inactive. We know of no better way they can be employed, then in Cruizing, and now direct and Authorize you to send them out as fast as they can be got ready, directing the Commanders to such Lattitudes as you shall think, there will be the greatest chance of success in intercepting the Enemies Transports and Merchant Ships; and they are to Take burn, Sink or destroy as many of their Vessils of every kind as may be in their Power; The Prizes they may take are to be sent into the most convenient and safe Ports in these States, addressed to the Continental Agents.

We shall leave you to judge of the Time for which each Vessil is to Cruize, and when they return into Port, you must again dispatch them with all Possible expedition on fresh Cruizes, always advising us of their Arrival, and the Time you think they will be ready for Sea, but they are not to [be] detained for any further Orders from us.

You are to instruct the Commanders that they are to be careful of the Ships their Stores and Materials, thet they Support strict discipline on board their Vessils, but treat their People well. Prisoners are to be treated with humanity; and that they are to be accountable to you for the expenditure of everything on board their Ships, recommending to them a strict observance of frugality and Economy.

We remain
Gentlemen
Your very Obed^{t} Serv^{ts}

By Order Marine Board. JOHN HANCOCK Presid^{t}

Wm Vernon James Warren
and John Deshon Esq^{rs}

JOHN DESHON TO DUDLEY SALTONSTALL.

New London March 4th 1778

Sir

The Honob^{l} Continental Navy Board at Boston having Directed me to adopt Such Measures and means as Shall appear most likely and Expedient to get the Ship under your Command out of Connecticutt River and bring her in to this port, in our former Conversation on this Matter you may Remember it was and Still is my Oppinion the most likely method to Succeed is to lighten the Ship as much as Posable bring her to an Even Keel, and a full tide, when the Coast is Clear take our Chance to run her over the Barr. I am now Going to Providence to Dispatch the Ship Collumbus, and Expect to Return in Ten Days, when I Shall give my whole attendance in the ab^{y} s^{d} Business. in the meantime wish you would Engage men for the Cruise fill up the vacanceys of your Petty Officers as will best Suit you, and your Ship in all Posable forwardness, and if Necessary hire such men by the Day as you have Okation for. no time must be lost, as this is the Proper time for geting out the Ships, we Can not Expect Very full tides after this month. I have Desired Nathl Shaw Esqr to Suply the Ship with Every thing you may have Okation for. you may Rely on my Return as soon as Posable

I am Sir your Humb^{l} Servant

JOHN DESHON.

To Dudley Saltonstall Esqr
Commander of Ship Trumbull.

JOHN DESHON TO JOHN HOW.

New London March 4th 1778

Sir

You are Ordered to take Command of the Schooner Mifflin untill further Orders from the Honobl Continental Navy Board at Boston, you are to Recve Orders from time to time from Dudley Saltonstal Esqr. Commander of the Continental Ship Trumbull Respecting the Ground you are to Cruise over, untill Such time as the Ship Trumbull is Got Safe out of the River. you are to Render Every Service in your Power to Captn Saltonstal in assisting to get this Ship out. you Shall have a Commission as Lieutt. in the Continental Navy forwarded you from Boston as soon as I Return to the Board, Same date as the one taken from you by the Enemy. Call on Nathl. Shaw Junr. Esqr., Our agent for suplys that are Necessary,

Your Humbl. Servant
Pr. Order the Board

JOHN DESHON

To Lieut. John How
N. London

you will Observe Strict Discapline useing your Ship's Compy and those whom the fortune of warr may throw into your hands with Generousaty and Tenderness. I wish you Success and am in behalf of the board your Humbl. Servt.

J. D.

JOHN DESHON TO THE NAVY BOARD.

Providence March 9th 1778

*Gentl*n Saturday Evening I Got to this Place

yours of the 3d and 5th Instant are now before me, in ansuer to the former, Respecting the Ship Warren I am happy She so well Succeeded in geting out of this river. Every Circumstance Combined in her Favour that She might [get] Clear of the Enemy. the night was Exceeding Dark, and there was but little wind untill the Crittecal time of Passing the Greatest Danger, when the wind Shifted very Suddenly into the N. W and blowd Exceeding hard so that the Enemy Could not without the Greatest Difficulty Get under Sail and Persue. I was at Warrick Neck and up the Most part of the Night when the Warren Passed and am Very Sure it was Imposable for Captn Hopkins to gain the Port of N. London there being So much wind and the weather so Severe Cold, there where [were] on board the Warren abt 170 men manny of which had not a Second Shift of Cloaths, therefore it will be Very Diffucult as well as Teadius for Captn Hopkins to beat this Courst at this Severe Season. the Orders Given him by me, you have with you, which Gives him not the least Encouragement to Cruise. Nevertheless Should the Ship Keep out this three weeks I Shall not be in the least uneasy abt her, well Knowin[g] the men in no Condission to Beat a Winters Courst, we have Succeeded b[e]yound Expectation in Geting her out, and I have not the least Doubt but She will in due time Return with honor to the Commander and his Compy.

The Ship Trumbull must be Got out this month if Posable. we Cannot Expect so full Tides after March is out. I have Given the Necessary order to Captain Saltonstal for that Purpose, have furnished him with a Number of men, and

4000 Dollers in that he may Prosecute his Business with Dispatch. N. Shaw Esq[r] Declined advancing more money having allready advanced 20000 £ for Continant and having So many Calls for money on his own acco[t]. Said it was out in [of] his Powr to advance more untill Such time as he is Reembursed. he has Sent Express to Congress for that Purpose. N. Shaw has Quantety of Provissions and other Stores for the Trumbull which he Procured Last year.

I have ordered Major Huntington to Enquire into the Situation of Salsbury Furnice assoon as Con[venient], and aquaint the board.

I Shall Transmitt him Certifycates to amo[t]. of your Order of the 5th Instant. I waited on the Treasurer this morning. have for answer he will do the best he Can, but Says I must take Some Certifycates Some Conecticutt Some Rhoad Island and Some Curr[t]. money or he Cannot answer the Draft. I shall attend him untill I have Got payment, and follow your Directions in the Matter.

The Collumbus is not quite Ready Neither has She hands to Carry her out. Capt[n] Hacker is in the Country. Shall be able to Give you better acco[t] of her after I See him. you Shall in my next hear more ab[t] her.

Capt[n] Whipple has a fair Prospect of Geting his Ship well mand Very Soon, the termes adopted for that Purpose are as follows,

Viz[t] Each and Every man that will Enter on board S[d] Ship Providance for a Cruise Shall Recive adissional advance over and above what is allowed by the Honob[l]. Continental Congress fifty Dollers.

this is the only Expediant I Could think of for Speedily maning this Ship, and Should it meet your Approbation I Shall be Very Happy. I am fully Perswaided She Could not be mand on anny better Terms. I have made Particular Enquirey into the Caracters of those Gentlemen Capt[n]

Whipple has Recomended for his three Lievtenants, and find them fully answer their Recomendation. Captn Whipple has also Recomended Captn Wm Joans for his Captn of Marines. he is a man well aquanted with the Service having Been in it the most of the War, and has Great Interest in Raising A Compy. of Marines. his appearance and Caracter is Such I apprehend as will do Honor to the Service. I being anciously Concernd for Geting out these Ships assoon as Posable have Promissd Mr Joans this Captaincy and he is now Enlisting men well Knowing it will have Great Tendancy to man the Ships. if I am too forward in filling up those Vacansys your freindly admonission in the Matter will be Kindly Excepted by me, who I assure you have no Other Interest in those Appointments then what Respects the Publick Good. if you approve you will Pleas to forward Comisn and warrants for the Several Persons whose Names I here Inclosd I hope the Providance will be Ready to Sail in 14 Days. if you approve of my filling up the Vacancys of Petty Officers in Sd Ship pleas to Signify it in your next, and with Respect to Vacancys in the Ship Trumbull who is Destitute of Some Officers you will Signify yr Pleasure. the Officrs who are appointed must be Men of Inflewance and Interest or we Shall never be able to man the Ships or do anny thing to Affect. I have not the least Doubt but if we are truly Industorous and not frightened at a little Extra Expence, we Shall Shortly make our Navy more Respectable, but in my humble Oppinion they must be Got out, while the weather Remains Cold and Severe —

Yrs and Co ——

Honob: JOHN DESHON

Navy Board

Boston

LEONARD JARVIS TO THE NAVY BOARD.

The Honr. the Commissrs. of the Navy Board Dartmouth Mar 10th 1778

Gentlemen

Your Favour of the 3d Instant was delivered me by Mr. Trivett. Capt. Rathburn has not yet got here. as soon as he arrives, I shall apply to him to know what may be wanted for the intended Cruize, and shall apply to your Honl. Board for those Articles which cannot be procur'd here.

It would have given me real pleasure to have found Mr. Agent Trivett and the Officers of the Sloop willing to send the Goods out of the Mary to Boston, but they have so long look'd upon them as their own that they cannot bring themselves to think of the delivering any part to the Continental Agent.

I am sorry to say that there does not appear to me to be that Disposition to do Justice to the States that I could wish in Officers of the Navy. I was fully of Opinion with your Honourable Board before the receipt of your Letter — that Congress never meant to give the Captors the whole of what Armed Merchantmen they might take but, as I should have been thought actuated only by selfish Motives, I thought it best not to urge the Matter greatly 'till I was favoured with your Instructions. since their Arrival, I have not been wanting in my Endeavours to get the Goods lodgd with me to be sent to Boston, but without Effect. all that I can obtain, is, leave to take an Account of them.

The Goods Mr Casey tells me are all here, except a few Casks left at Marthas Vinyard to pay those who assisted in unlading &c. the Ship is strip'd and left at Woods Hole. If the Resolution of Congress should be constru'd in favour

of the Captors, I shall be glad to hear that this Sloop is to be put out of Commission, being thoroughly persuaded that the Advantage arising to the States from her Distressing the Enemy is by no means adequate to the Expence. I expect Capt Rathburn will on his Arrival, deliver me his Muster roll for payment. such have been my Advances for Government that I have it not in my power to do it, must therefore request the favour of you to enable me to execute your Orders. I have a Quantity of Sugar and some Cotton belonging to the Continent on hand, but such has been the Effect of the talk'd of Regulating Act that I have not had a purchaser apply for either these two Months.

I am Gentlemen with great Respect
Your most Obed^{t} and
very huml Servt

LEO : JARVIS

LEONARD JARVIS TO THE NAVY BOARD.

Dartmouth Mar 12th 1778

The Honble the Commis^{rs}
of the Navy Board.

Gentlemen

Your Favour of the 10th Inst^{o} was handed me just now by Capt Bass. I shall do all in my Power to procure a Master and hands for the Loyalty, but fear that it will be without Effect, as every Master in our Neighbourhood is engaged. I shall write to Mr Burroughs, who Capt Bass tells me you mentioned as being likely to go, and shall send to Freetown, where I am told there are some People who are acquainted with Sinepuxent. as soon as I have provided a

Master shall advise you of it, that you may forward his orders.

Mr. Trivett, as I have already informed your board will not suffer me to take any further Charge of the Goods than an Account of them. they have kept a few Hogsheads of molasses by Capt. Sturgis. Gorham and I have procured a Sloop to take in a load for the Hyannas, which is also to be delivered Capt. Gorham and who I have requested to keep them in his Possession 'till he has Orders from your Hon! Board or myself. I am sorry to see so little Attention paid by the Officers of the Navy to your Orders, and had I not feared that the Consequences of an Attempt to wrest the Goods out of Trivett's hands might have been a greater detriment at this time to the publick than letting them remain till the Condemnation I should have certainly done it, but if your Hon! Board thinks otherways and will favour me with your Orders, and procure me Authority to call in the Aid of the Militia, I will certainly do it.

The Cargo as usual does not turn out near so great as reported. the Papers that the Captors may produce to the Court will probably ascertain the Quantity shipt, and then if a Decree is obtaind (as I am confident it will in favr. of Government) they may be call'd to Account for the whole Cargo.

Herewith I send you a Muster Role of the Sloop Providence and a return from Lieut House of what things are wanted for that Vessel. her Stern and Quarters he says must be rebuilt. I shall engage Carpenters for the Purpose, but I do assure you Gentlemen that nothing but a Desire of serving the Publick would induce me to have anything to do with the Sloop unless there shd be a great Alteration in the Deportment of both Officers in General and the Men. there is no subordination on board, which is a little surprizing considering the Number of Officers they have on board. If the Roll is to be paid off must beg the favour of you to furnish

me with Cash for the purpose as I have no Money on hand and am already largely advance.

I am Gentlemen, with due Respect
Your most Obd^{t} and
very hum Servt

LEO : JARVIS

P. S. Mr House, who has acted as Lieut on board the Providence and was lately on board the Hambden, might possibly be prevailed on to take the Loyalty, by your Board requesting it.

JAMES WARREN TO JOHN DESHON.

Navy Board Eastern department
Boston March 14, 1778

Dear Sir

I Yesterday received your favour of the 11th with the Certificates and money you sent. Mr Thaxter will Inform you that there is a deficiency of Twenty three dollars in the whole money. fifteen of them were in one bundle. Mr Thaxter has taken the paper which will of itself shew the Mistake. among it is some of this States money and some of Rhode Island but the sums are inconsiderable. I shall Inclose the order you write for and three blank Commissions which I Suppose you will not use without Absolute Necessity requires new Appointments. The Small pox prevails much in this Town and may spread. Mr Vernon stood it with great Fortitude Several days and at last thought it prudent to decamp. I think he Judged right. he left us on Thursday Morning with a design to meet you at Providence which will make any further Observations on your Letter unnecessary as you and

he will determine on the Several matters as you think proper. I should be willing Mr Huntington had some of this Current money. The Bread for Whipple and other Articles for him are gone forward and hope at Providence before now. We have no News. I wish to see you here.

and am Your friend and humble Servt

J WARREN

Honble John Deshon Esqr

P. S. Since writing the above I have received two Letters from Mr. Jarvis which I inclose to you as the Consideration of the Contents seems more proper for two than one of the board. I am not a little Alarmed at the Conduct of the Captain and Crew of the Providence. he is in your neighborhood and I think at least should be informed that his orders and resolves of Congress require that all Prizes should be sent to the Care of the Agents. the Law is then to have its Course and Whoever the Prizes are decreed to will have the benefit of them. You will give orders about the Sloop and if a Master for the Scooner cannot be Obtained in those parts I will try here.

Mr Gross and Thaxter goe as Lieutenants to Capt Ayers.

WILLIAM ELLERY TO WILLIAM VERNON.

York Town Mh 16th 1778.

Dear Sir,

On the 11th instant I received yours of the 5th and Mr. Jno Adams's[1] of the 6th of February. Two paragraphs of the latter I will transcribe; because I know it must give you pleasure. "Dear Sir, I had yesterday the pleasure of recieving your letter of the 22d of January, and beg leave to assure

[1] See the introduction.

you I shall pay all proper attention to its contents, by rendering to the Gentleman you recommend every Service in my power.

"I had been before introduced to that young gentleman by his father; for whom I have concieved a great deal of esteem, and from what I have seen and heard of the son I think him ingenious and promising; but as I shall have an ample opportunity to become more acquainted with him, I shall be better able hereafter to speak of him from my own knowledge, and you may depend upon it, that nothing shall be wanting on my part, towards recommending him in proportion to his merits." I most heartily congratulate with you on your Son's being under the patronage of so worthy a gentleman, and hope he will be a blessing and an honour to his father and his country. He early treads the great stage of the world, may his steps be directed by unerring wisdom, and boundless goodness!

I read that part of your letter, respecting the 74 at Portsmouth, and a Paragraph of one I rec^{d}, about the same time and upon the same Subject, from Mr Whipple, to the marine committee, and it was agreed to stop the building of her for the present. These huge ships are too costly and unwieldy; and it will require as many men to man one of them, as to man three or four frigates; besides we cannot with all the naval force we can collect be able to cope with the british navy. Our great Aim should be to destroy the trade of Britain; for which purpose Frigates are infinitely better calculated than such large Ships. Mr Whipple proposes to the marine comm[itt]ee to put the timber prepared for the 74 into a frigate to mount 30 18-pounders on one deck, and this proposal I believe would be complied with if our finances were not at present very low and the demands of the great departments of war very high. I wish we may be able to finish, man, and get to sea, in the course of the next summer, the

frigates that are now in hand ; but I very much doubt it. It gave the marine comm[itt]ee great Satisfaction to find that the Warren had got out. We have since heard that She had arrived at Boston, which we hope will prove true. I hope you will get out the Providence and Columbus. The Virginia hath made two fruitless attempts to pass out Chesapeak. She is order'd to make another. There ar four or five Men of war in that bay ; but I cannot think it so difficult to pass by them, as it is to pass those in our Bay. Our last accounts from Charlestown S^{o} Carolina were, that Capt. Biddle with three State armed Vessels were determined to go over the Bar, and attack several British Vessels of about an equal force with them. I cannot forbear being anxious for the Event.

The marine Committee lately ordered Capt. Barry of the Effingham to take the four Boats, belonging to the Frigates which are sunk in the Delaware, and proceed on a Cruise upon that River. On the 7th instant Two of them, the other two had not then got below the city, joined by five boats, half manned, attacked (near Bombay-hook) and took two of the Enemy's transport ships, one mounting six four pounders, the other two swivels ; and also a Schooner with eight 4-pounders, twelve 4-pound howitzers and 32 men, properly equipped for an armed vessel. They first boarded the Ships, and, learning from them the Strength of the Schooner, Capt. Barry prudently sent a flag to the Schooner, ordering the Capt. of her to submit, and promising that he and his officers, on compliance, should be allowed their private baggage ; whereupon they thought proper to strike. As the ships were loaded only with forage, Capt. Barry, after stripping, burnt them, the Schooner, being a suitable Vessel for a Cruiser, he is orderd to purchase and employ on the Delaware so long as he thinks it may be safe. She had in [her] a variety of useful and valuable Articles. This gallant Action reflects

great Honour on Capt Barry, his officers and the Crews of those Boats. The other two boats have since got down, and in their way took a small sloop, with fresh Provisions, bound to the City. I expect every day to hear of their further Success. These boats will annoy and injure the enemy more, in my opinion, than both the Seventy fours would, if they were built, equipped and manned, — at least upon the Delaware.

With regard to the Fish Mr Whipple writes "I have never been able to procure any fish that I think worth sending to you or your friends, they ask 20 dollars pr Quintal for such as I would not by any means make use of. I do not suppose it possible to get any of the first Quality at present, when I can you may depend I shall not be unmindful of your order."

I thank you for the Stick of Sealing-wax. I had been obliged some times to secure my Letters with the Wax taken from Letters I had received.

Please to write to me frequently, and send me all the news you can collect. The two armies are in statu quo. Nothing material hath lately turned up. You will have heard, before this reaches you, that the intended Irruption into Canada is laid aside. We are obstructing and fortifying Hudson's River, collecting men and provisions &c &c for the next campaign. The last will be the most difficult to accomplish. To have subdued both the British Armies in one Campaign was not more than I expected the last; but it would have left us nothing to do the ensueing Campaign.

With the Aid of Heaven we will crush the Serpent's head next Summer, and force our Enemies to be at peace with Us! I have room only to add that I am

Yrs Wm ELLERY.

JAMES WARREN TO JOHN DESHON OR WILLIAM VERNON.

Navy Board Eastern Department
Boston March 17, 1778

Dear Sir

Yours of the 9th and 10th Instant are received at the Board. as I presume Mr Vernon will be with you by the time this reaches you, it will be unnecessary for me to make any particular Observations on the Contents as you two being together can determine on your several proposals and doings. I shall therefore only say that I think them Judicious and by no means deserving of Censure. the success in getting out the Warren is very pleasing, and is a presage of good Success in our attempts with regard to the others. I hope we shall make a figure with the navy here notwithstanding the obstacles arising from the Scanty State of our Finnances. I am very much in Opinion with you about the Trumball, She must be got out this month without fail no time hereafter promises so fair for Success and we had better try the Experiment however disagreeable it may be. I wish we could have Certain Accounts of the Safety of the Warren. I am anxious about the Cannon for the New Ship here. there seems to be a dilatoriness about getting her ready for Launching which has made me Uneasy. I accordingly went to Mr Cushing last Evening and told him this matter must be Attended to and dispatched. he complains of the want of money. I desired him to call this morning and let me know how much may possibly do. I am expecting him and propose to furnish him with some.

You can hardly conceive what a run there is upon us for payment of Bills &c. the office is Constantly full. how they discovered the money you sent I know not. whenever you order and a proper opportunity offers the Certificates shall be sent Colo Tillinghast.

Capt Burroughs is now here and has under Consideration a proposal I made him and his Lieu^{t} to go the Trip in the Loyalty. he has again mentioned a Brig^{t} at Warren to be sold, owned by Col^{o} Childs and would be very Suitable for his Stores. had you not better see her and see whether she and her price and manner of payment suit.

I left Mrs Warren Sick and my private affairs as well as my own health require a Journey to Plymouth as soon as I can dispatch the business immediatly Important. I shall be gone about a Week. I hope soon for the pleasure of your attendance here. Mr Vernon I suppose will take your place. We have no News of Importance.

I am

Your Friend and hum^{ble} Servt

J. WARREN

P. S. Capt Burroughs has Agreed to go in the Loyalty if a master is not Already provided. I know not whether I shall be able to get other Vessells. I have no prospect at present.

If Mr Vernon is disposed to be Innoculated he may be by returning here before the 25th of this Month.

[Addressed] On public Service

Honble John Deshon Esqr

Providence

In his Absence Honble Willm Vernon Esqr

WILLIAM VERNON TO JAMES WARREN.

Providence 18th March 1778.

Sirs

This afternoon Capt Deshon sets out for New London, on the necessary business of geting the Trumble out of Con-

necticut River. The Columbus has fell down the River. Capt Harker hath promised us he will be ready to Improve the very first opportunity of Wind and Weather that presents after to morrow. he is supplyed with every thing requisite to carry his Ship to New London or the first port of Safety that he can get into. we have thought it best to put on board Six Weeks Stores least he shou'd be obliged to put off the Coast.

Capt Whipple Enters Men very fast he expects to have upwards of one hundd Men by the last of this Week. The plan that hath been adopted is, that the Ship proceed from hence on a Cruise, for the reasons already given by Mr Deshon. indeed it appears to me that she cou'd not have been Mann'd upon the same terms that the Warren was. You will please to say If it be your opinion that she proceed directly to France: or That its consistant with our Instructions to Order her on a Cruise where we think it most likly to annoy our Enemies and take Prizes. If she is ordered to France you will transmit the Copy of the Orders recd from the Hble Marine board: and such other dispatches as you think may be with Safty sent thro' the dangerous Fire of a Line of the Enemys Ships. we don't judge it prudent to intrust papers of great consequence by this Ship. you will please to Send a Copy of the Signals to be observed in the Continental Navy, and what other papers and dispatches you may think Proper.

I am with the greatest respect,

Your Most Obedt

H Servt

P. S. pray let me know from Time to time all the News that's stiring wch will multiply the Obligation of Yr &c

To

James Warren Esqr

Boston.

WILLIAM STORY[1] TO WILLIAM VERNON.

Boston March 20 1778

Sir

This morning your favour of the 18th Curr^{t} was received at the Office. Mr Warren sat out for home Yesterday about twelve a Clock noon, expecting Mr Deshon would have been here by this time who gave directions to Open Letters directed to the Board. Upon which I opened yours and Mr Deshons and find by yours that Mr Deshon is gone to Connecticutt, So that expect to be alone till the week after next for which I am very sorry as so many people are Continually coming about business which I have no Authority to Transact.

I find by looking over the Letters from the Honble Marine Com^{tee} a paragraph in that of the 26th Octr last in the words following viz. "Capt Mc Neill has Already Instructions "where his Ship is to proceed viz. to France, a form of like "Instructions is herewith Inclosed to be by you given to the "Ships at Providence". So that apprehend^{g} you will think it Adviceable to give Capt^{t} Whipple orders to go on a Cruise Inclose Copy of said Instructions and the Signals.

The Order Mr Deshon mentions to be left behind I find was therefore now send it.

There is a report in Town and said to be Confirmed by the way of St Eustatia that the Courts of France Spain and Holland have declared these States Free and Independent States and that Mr Franklyn is admitted at the Court of France as their Ambassador. I wish it may be true.

I have the honour to be with great Esteem
Your honours most
Obed^{t} hum^{ble} Servt
WILL^{m} STORY.

[1] Clerk of the Navy Board for the Eastern Department.

P. S. It is said that the King of Prussia has fitted out three Ships and has sent to England to Inform them that they were bound to these States and if they molested them he would send an Army to Hanover.

Honble Willm Vernon Esqr

WILLIAM VERNON TO THE NAVY BOARD.

Providence 25th March 1778

Gentle^{m}.

This moment several of the Ship Warrens Men came to Town from Boston, who inform me they Arrived There last Monday; and in passing the Enemys Ships in this River on the 16th they sustained some damage, their Mizen Yard shot away, Main yard wounded, several shot passed through their Hull, one Man only sleightly wounded; The Wind blowing and continueing fresh at N W. the Crew badly Clothed, and Weather extreem Cold were under the Necessity of standing to the Southward in warmer Weather under easie sail far as the Latt. 24° where they fell in with the Ship Neptune Capt Smallwood from Whitehaven bound to Phil^{a} Loaded with Salt and dry Goods. and Soon after with the Snow ——— Capt Smith from St. Eustatia bound to Ireland with Flax Seed and Fustick both of wch Prizes they ordered to the first Port of Safty either in the State of New Hampshire or Massa^{s}, and shou'd be happy to hear of their Arrival. Capt Hopkins took out of the Neptune 120 bales of duck and some other Articles.

John Deshon Esqr left this Place this day Week for Connecticut River determined to push out the Trumbal the next Tides, and if possible to get her into New London. she must be intirely stript of her Yards and Top Mast, and all her Story even to a Swept Hole that if possible to bring her

to 9 or 10 feet Water with the Assistance of her Courses with Two Sloops she may get to N. London in a few hours being only Twenty Miles distance. I cannot doubt of his Success if the sound is clear of the Enemys Ships.

The Columbus has fell down the River five Mile below this Town waiting only a favourable Wind and Thick Weather to proceed to New London. we have Landed all her Stores except 4 fowl Guns to keep off a Boat, wch brings the Ship to a light set of Ballast and much facilitate her Sailing, besides if she falls into the Enemies hands they will gain only an Old Ship and Twenty five Men wch we think sufficient to run the Ship to N London.

The Providence hath all her Stores on board for a Cruise. have inlisted about 100 Men in 10 days. Capt Whipple expects to have his Complement of hands in 8 or Ten days tho' I am very doubtful of his being able to Ship more then 150 in that Time altho the encouragement we give the Men, on this pressing occation, is 90 doll' to able Sea Men and 50 to Ordinary and Lands Men, to be deducted out of future Prize Money. we wish to have your approbation of this Measure, and also of our methods respecting the Columbus, Trumbal and Warren. we know nothing can justifie our departing from the Rules prescribed by Congress, but the absolute necessity of geting those Ships out from their long and expensive confinement. our motives and exertions are intirely governed by rules of oeconomy [and] of good of the service.

I am with the greatest respect

Genl Y^{r} Most Obedent

H^{ble} Servt

P. S. this moment hear the Neptune is Safe Arrived at Boston.

WILLIAM VERNON TO JAMES WARREN.

Providence 28th March 1778.

Dear Sir.

This Morng by Lieut. Thaxter, I recd Mr. Storys favors of the 24th and 26th the last of wch Inclosed this States Loan Office certificates amounting to Dolls 4,600. I hope this will find you at Boston where I am perswaded your presence is much wanted in despatching the Warren, I could wish circumstances wou'd admit of my being with you.

Last Evens the Columbus left the River, passed Warwick Neck about Ten o'clock, the uper Ship Weighed and stood after her. She was at her Station in the Morning, we cannot determine what has been the fate of the Columbus, however she must either be at Newpt or New London ere this, when known you'll hear from me.

The Providence hath near all her Stores on board, Capt Whipple said last Evens he had 130 Men and is determined to push out first Wind after Eight days. Inclosed you have Jno Deshon Esqrs last lettr to me, by wch you will perceive the Govr and Council of the State of Connecticut hath Imploy'd Capt. John Cotton to get the Trumbull out of the River to New London. undoubtedly they have authority for the measures they are taking, and hope they will succeed in the undertaking. I can't think it advisable to Capt. Deshon in interposing in the matter, they must be answerable for their conduct.

This Moment report is made that their is not one Blanket belonging to the Providence, nor one to be had in this Town. we must have at least 140 from Boston soon as Possible. I hope Sr. it will be in your power to send them, the may be soon made out of the Welch Cottons that came in Capt. Chews prize. I have not Time to inlarge least should lose this conveyance. I am with great regard,

Yr. Most Obt.

Hbl James Warren Esqr.

JAMES WARREN TO WILLIAM VERNON.

Boston April 4th 1778

Dear Sir

I have received yours of Yesterday by Capt. Prince. I am very sorry that there has any disadvantage arisen to the Service by the Men going off from the Warren without their pay. with regard to them Individually it is of little Consequence Since it is Intirely owing to their own Impatience, those that tarried a few days were Satisfied according to their Wishes. Nothing but the Weather and a little touch of the Gout prevented my being here Several days sooner than I was, and you know it is an old [maxi]m there is no help for Sickness. I will take care to have the people Satisfied as soon as possible. I have this day wrote to Capt Deshon Expressing my Surprise at the Conduct of the Governor and Council of Connecticutt. if they have any new powers for this purpose I think such Conduct implys a reflection on us, especially as Congress have given us no notice of them, if they have not they certainly interfere with a department they have no business with. in the first case I should like Mr Deshon should leave them to themselves, in the other case I hope and don't doubt he will act with Spirit and let them know they have nothing to do with the Ship, and Insist on the New Captain and his Crew leaving her, but this I submit to your better Judgment. with regard to the Duck at N London it seems to me it had better be Secured for notwithstanding the Warren has brought in a quantity you know we want a great deal and the Price is not exorbitant as times go. The Warren must have Several new Sails having Suffered much in some of her Material Ones, but you will think of it and do as you think best. I very much Approve of your sending the Providence directly on her intended Cruise to France for the reasons you mention, but I believe it will not

be proper to Intrust any Packages by her Unless it be one of News papers, which I will forward in Season. The Blanketts are obtained and will be ready for the first Oppertunity the beginning of the Week, sooner they could not be had. What expectations are we to entertain of Cannon for Mr Cushings Ship. it will be a Misfortune if she waits for us after hurrying him. What have you determined to do with the remainder of the pig Iron. but two loads are yet Arrived. I look every Minute for the remainder weighed off. those Teams may carry up the Blanketts. do you propose to send your Scales and Beam down. Can you make no use of the Fire ships at Providence. I have this afternoon agreed with Mr Babcock for the Syrens Iron hearth at £12 pr C^{t} he assures me it is almost as good as new. you will please to Enquire into the quality and take it away to Norwich or send it here as soon as possible. the order is Inclosed. I lament the loss of the Columbus it seems she took a poor time and was in some respects not well Conducted. I fear it will Encourage their Vigilence. I wish the Providence well Clear of them, but I have my fears about her. We have no kind of News foreign or domestick. if any thing Occurs shall write you again immediatly. I wish you had returned and gone thro' the Small pox which is very light, and by that means got Clear of any future apprehensions. I am sure I heartily wish both for the Company and assistance of one of you at least

I am Sincerely

Your Friend & hum^{ble} Servt

J. WARREN

[P. S.] We have failed of the Iron hearth at Salem and I do not know at present where we are to get one for the Ship at Salisbury and have not more than 20 tuns of ballast engaged for her.

JAMES WARREN TO WILLIAM VERNON.

Boston April 14, 1778

Dear Sir

I received yours of the 10th. Instant last Evening. the money was delivered to your Son last Saturday, and I dare say received by you on Monday Morning. I was and am Still unable to say anything of the Cost of the Blanketts. the truth is I received them and a much larger Number, with some Stockings, and a quantity of Ravens Duck, from Bilboa on Acct. of the Continent, and Ventured to reserve 300 blanketts, one bale of Stockings, and forty pieces of ravens duck for our Board. one hundred and forty of these blanketts were forwarded to you. they are very good and you'l be able to set a proper price on them. I suspected the late Movements would Excite the Vigilence of the Enemy. would it not be good policy to give out in such a manner as will reach them, that we mean only to keep in port a larger Number of their Ships, and to Guard Providence River. if they get it and it Succeeds it may put them off their Guard, and at the same time their laying there may make many objects for our fireships if you think proper to improve them. I have already wrote you on the Subject of the Columbus's Stores. I cant think of a better disposition of them than sending to Boston or some Secure place this way. I dont at present know of any birth for Mr Brown. he must be remembered when we have. I will mention Mr. Dunham to Capt Hopkins as you desire. We have not any News of any kind.

I am

Your Friend and humble Servt

J WARREN

Honble Willm Vernon Esqr [Providence].

JAMES WARREN TO WILLIAM VERNON.

Boston April 17 1778

Dear Sir

I received yours of the 13th Instant, I hope the money sent came to hand in Season to prevent any great disadvantage. The pigg Iron from Providence is daily coming in but under a Circumstance that Strikes me disagreeably. I find the Neat Weight is mentioned instead of Gross, which seems Calculated to Answer the purposes of Extortion, and to have Consequences that Extend into futurity. what the Computations or Customs are I know not, but I think it would be best for the public to make no Estimates but by Gross Weight, if it even Cost a little more at present. I hope Captt Whipple will Succeed in getting his Ship out both for his own reputation and the good of the public. I have made large purchases here. so has Captt Deshon at N London. I have purchased Thirty two Shot, some duck, a Cable and many other things. Where the money is to come from to pay for them we all know, but when and how we are to Comply with the Contracts remain Uncertain. An Express to Congress for money might be Effectual, but it is a Measure for several reasons I would avoid if possible. I wish to have your Sentiments on the Matter. Our Business is now Extensive and grows very fast upon us, and our Treasury is very low. I must go home next week, or have no Gardens and no Farm this Year. What am I then to live on. the Extortion of the Country and Town takes all I get here to maintain me in the Simplest manner without any Connection with a family. my Letter to Captt Deshon which went by Captt Hopkins and now inclosed to you, give my opinion of the Columbus's Stores and Several other Matters. I hope you have wrote to Captt Deshon and shall be obliged to you for it. Mr Blodget has been with me repeatedly about the

Pursers birth in the Warren and Claims our promise. Capt Hopkins has another in that place, and I understand by him Capt Deshon agreed to or made his appointment. Conceiving it improper that one of us should Countermand the doings of another, I have given him no Encouragement till I see Capt Deshon. you will speak to Capt Hopkins on this Subject. I am sorry the Enemy have got one of the Warrens prizes and glad that another has arrived Safe.

I am Your Friend and Servt

J WARREN

P. S. Do Expedite your Contract for the Cannon as much as possible. have them cast and sent forward on the Ship. will certainly wait for them. if you write to the Navy Board at Bo[r]dentown wont it be well to desire them to forward to us the Resolutions of Congress relating to the Navy Board as ordered by the Marine Committee.

Honble Willm Vernon Esqr [Providence].

JAMES WARREN TO WILLIAM VERNON.

Boston April 20, 1778

Dear Sir

Not having met with an Opportunity to send forward my last it is hereinclosed, Since which the Raleigh arrived Safe on Yesterday. I shall proceed with her as fast as I can. shall leave proper orders during a Short Absence I propose. The Warren lays in a most destitute and forlorn Situation. it is Necessary Capt Hopkins should return immediatly. I have just received a packett from Congress. have time only to Inform you that there are inclosed three Certificates amounting to 100,000 dollars on Loan Office, Boston for 40,000, Connecticut for 30,000, New Hampshire for 30000.

I shall send them forward as soon as possible. We have great and agreeable News here. for want of time must refer you for particulars to the papers. I give you Joy on the Occasion and am

Your Friend and humble Servt.

J WARREN

Honble Willm Vernon Esq [Providence].

WILLIAM ELLERY TO WILLIAM VERNON.

York Town April 25th 1778

Dear Sir,

I am now to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 4th of March and the fourth of this month.

The Boston hath on board a pretious cargoe. May she carry it safe to France! The Enemies ships do indeed swarm in the Seas of America and Europe; but hitherto only one of our Frigates hath been captured on the Ocean. Two have been burned in North River, two sunk in Delaware, one captured there, and one in Chesapeak. The Alfred we are just informed was taken on her passage home by two frigates in sight of the Rawleigh. The particulars of this capture and why she was not supported by the Rawleigh we are ignorant of. I hope Capt Thompson is not culpable. I entertain a high opinion of him. The Columbus is a trifling Loss, and I should not much lament the Loss of the Alfred if her brave Captain, Officers and men were not in the hands of a cruel enemy. Our little fleet is very much thinned. We must contrive some plan for catching some of the Enemy's Frigates to supply our Losses; but we must take care not to catch tartars. It is reported that Capt Biddle of the Randolph, in an engagement with a sixty gun ship, was blown up. We have been so unfortunate that I am apt to believe almost any

bad news; but this report I cannot believe. I fear for the Providence. I know but little respecting her captain, and only one of her other officers.

General Burgoyne and his family are allowed by Congress to go to Britain on their parole, and Co^{l} Anstruther to Rhode-Island to solicit an exchange between himself and Co^{l} Ethan Allen, if an exchange of the latter for Lt Co^{l} Campbell should not be agreed, which is the case; so that Anstruther must return on his parole. I know nothing about the Hessian Officers you speak of, but presume they had permission to go to Newport from proper Authority.

I am sorry to hear that we are so much neglected by our Sister States, and hope that the arrival of the new General[1] will be attended with favorable circumstances. He is an officer of Spirit and I trust will take due care of the State and the tories. When Thomas Cranston Esq came off the Island, he played the hypocrite so artfully as to induce some people to believe that he had changed his principles. I wrote to one whose credulity was imposed upon by him my Sentiments on the occasion. Sooner will an AEthiopian change his Skin or a Leopard his spots, than Tories will become Whigs. I am told that he came from Newport to make a conveyance of his Estate to his son, it may be so, but such a fraudulent conveyance will not I trust protect it from confiscation. The ten other infamous scoundrels you have given me a list of I never had the dishonour to be acquainted with. I am of your opinion that some persons of consequence in the Towns of S. and N. Kingstown are busy in procuring men for Whitmore's regiment, and by proper management it may be, if true, fully known. The way might be this. Let Genl Sullivan bribe some artful persons who are connected or will connect themselves with those who are supposed to be disaffected in said or any other towns to converse with them on the subject of

[1] Sullivan.

our political disputes, and fall in with their sentiments, in this way they may become acquainted with the principals among the Tories, and after having obtained sufficient proof to convict them they may be dragged forth to public view and receive the punishment which such perfidious miscreants deserve. A plan of this kind was successfully executed in the State of New York, and cannot fail of success in any state provided proper persons are employed. It is of great importance that the Tories should be known not only to prevent the mischief they may do, but that the States where they lurk may have their Estates to enable them to discharge the debt contracted by a war which they have encouraged, and are still supporting by every means in their power, against their country. If you approve of the measure I have hinted for detecting our internal secret enemies I hope you will mention it to General Sullivan.

If it should be thought proper to have an addition of one to your Board, it would have more weight coming from the board than from a member in his private capacity, and I don't know any Gentleman who would be more agreeable to Congress than Mr Whipple.

We have nothing new, but a melancholy account of the Randolph's blowing up in an engagement with a fifty gun ship. It is supposed that every Soul perished.

Inclosed is the last York paper which contains weighty manoeuvres. It ought to be immediately reprinted in Providence. you will therefore deliver it to the Printer so soon as you shall have read it.

I am with great Respect

Yrs WILLIAM ELLERY

[Addressed] William Vernon Esq, Providence, Rhode Island.

WILLIAM STORY TO WILLIAM VERNON.

Boston, April 29, 1778

Dear Sir

This comes to you by Capt[t] Rathburn and as I take him to be a safe hand Send by him two Thousand dollars in Certificates. all our Cash is gone that was left when you was here save a few dollars. I miss you much and long to have the pleasure of seeing you. I hope that will soon be the case. the Town is not yet Ordered to be Cleansed but Expect it every day. I wish it was so that you could be at Roxbury where we might have your advise from time to time as Matters are turning up every day and the Business of the board increasing.

The doct[r]. of the Alfred has been at the Board and gives a particular Acco[t] of Cap[t] Thompson's behaviour. he is Condemned by every One and they are Crying out why don't your board turn him out and hang him &c &c. I am Sorry the Service Suffers by the Misconduct of the officers in the navy. I want the board should be together to determine concerning Cap[t] Thompson. I am alone. M[r] Warren went home last Friday morn[g] not to return till next week if then. this Morning received a Letter Suppose from M[r] Deshon (it is not Signed) by which he Informs he intends to be in Town next Week. It is absolutly necessary that the Board or some of them at least should be here so many persons are constantly applying to the office and you know I can do nothing but pay away money which I am doing and shall do as long as it lasts which will not be very long I fear.

I am with great respect

Your Most hum[ble] Serv[t]

WILL[m] STORY.

Hon[ble] Will[m] Vernon Esq [Providence].

WILLIAM ELLERY TO WILLIAM VERNON.

York Town 6th May 1778

Dr Sir

The marine Comee of whch I am a member last Evens in conformity to a resolution of Congress, met and determined to send Six Vessils to carry important despatches to France, the said Vessils to be under the directions of the Comee of Foreign affairs. As the Letters for your Navy board is not yet written and Capt. Collins is about to set out immediatly, I take this oppty to request you upon receipt hereof forthwith to send off an express to Bedford to Capt Rathburn of the sloop Providence, wch is one of the Vessils Pitched upon for this business, if he shou'd not have sail'd, directing him not to proceed to Sea untill he shall have recd Orders from the Comee of foreign affairs wch will soon be transmitted to him, and he is most implicitly to obey. I most heartily congratulate you on the Treaties of Alliance Amity and Commerce wch were executed the 6th day of Feby last at Paris, and unanimously ratified by Congress the 4th Inst. I have only Time to say that those Treaties are magnanimous and founded in our Independency, equality and reciprocity. Inclosed is a hand bill published imprudently and without the knowledge of Congress, but whch contains some truths.

a respectable Army in the Field this Campaign and the War will be our own

Yours in haste

W- E—

P S dont let the occation of the sloop Provide being detained be known to any one, no not even to the Capt. of her himself. you will let the Navy board in Boston know that you have stopped the Sloop Provide otherwise upon the receipt of the Letter of the Commiee mr Warren may send off an express to Bedford.

JAMES WARREN TO WILLIAM VERNON.

Navy Board Eastern department

Boston May 11th 1778

Dear Sir

We have just received yours of the 9th instant, having received Several of your favours before that. We have not for want of time Answered for indeed we are Crouded with business. however We have had at heart the Matter of Cannon for the New Ship and Considered it for some time past as a Matter of Capital importance not only to the public but to our own Charectors. If the Ship should be detained for want of Cannon after being so long on hand the delay will be the public Censure which you know is very Sincere be carried to our account and they are always glad to find some persons and often no matter who to take the blame. the demands of Mr. Brown is indeed high but they are less than those of any other person We have yet Applyed to and must be Closed with immediately if he will not moderate them. You will please to Consider that it is necessary to have the Guns soon. The powder Shot Small Arms and the Cannon of 6 pounders if any such there be had better be sent here. with regard to the Pigg Iron to be purchased from the Syrene Stores if it can be had Cheap say for not exceeding Fifty pounds pr tun (as much Cheaper as possible) We had better purchase it and send it forward to Norwich. the Beef of the Columbus please to send here and that which is damaged and Condemned you will please to dispose of or distribute as your own discretion in considering the Circumstances of them may direct. We wish we could find Employ for the Many Marine Officers walking your streets and others. There are a quantity of hooks and Thimbles and such kind of Iron work that belonged to the Syrene now to be disposed of which we Conceive might answer very well for the Ship at Norwich and

suppose might be bought Cheap. We wish you would purchase and send them forward and if you can make a Saving by it. Inclosed is Mr Babcocks order for the Syrens Anchors. We wish they might be received and sent forward. the present owners are to have them taken up at their Expence &c. You know how much we want the resolves of Congress with regard to the Navy. Commod^r^. Hopkins can Supply us with a Number of them. his son Esek who comes down as third Lieu^t^. of the Warren can bring them. When do you think of joining us. it is yet out of our power to make you a further Supply of Cash but we hope that we shall soon be Enabled to do it having Ventured at last to Supply ourselves by a draft on the Marine Com^tee^.

We are

Your most hum^ble^ Serv^ts^

J WARREN

Inclosed is a Letter from Mr Babcock to Messrs Dyer and Sands which you will Seal and deliver. We are told Capt Whipple left behind him a Cable and Anchor, if so as they are Wanted for the Warren you will please to have them taken up and sent forward as soon as possible. the Warren goes on well and will soon be Manned and gone.

Honble Willm Vernon Esq

JOHN BROWN TO THE NAVY BOARD.

Providence 15 May 1778

*Gentl^n^*

We will agree to make you Thirty Twelve pound Cannon at our Air Furnace in the best and Neatest manner at £300 each Gun, allowing them to weigh 24 Cw^t^. you finding patterns with all their Irons &c Compleat of wch their must be

Three setts, in Order to have one Cast every day, and whatever they weigh more then 24 Ct. being the wt of those made from our Pattern for the ships Warren and Providence, You are to Pay for in the same proportion by weight, or we will make you sixty by your Patterns at £300 each without any allowance for the Extra-weight, and will deliver the whole at Furnace Hope (where they must be Bored out) as soon as possible. by order and in behalf of the Owners,

I am your Hble Servt,

JOHN BROWN

Continental Navy Board

JOHN DESHON TO WILLIAM VERNON.

Navy Board Eastern department

Boston May 21, 1778

Sir

Yours of the 18th: is just come to hand. Genl Warren is gone home. Expect him back on Saturday next.

The Extravagant demand of Messrs Brown for the Cannon is provoking and I am fully of opinion We may obtain Cannon from Salisbury furnice in time for the Ship at Salisbury. I wish an Express could be sent to Norwich Immediatly and that Mr Huntington would make Application to Governor Trumbull and his Council at Hartford and know Certain the time when and the Terms on which we may have the Cannon. as soon as Mr Warren comes to the Board we will write you on this Subject. in mean time think it would be well to send to Mr Huntington as above. Twelvepounders I think will be sufficient for the Ships. there will be wanted at Norwich 8 Six pounders for the New Ship.

The pigg Iron ballast of the Cyrene is fit for no other use but ballast and no body will purchase it but our board. the

price you have offered is much more than they will be able to sell it for to any body else. New Bar Iron Could be bought in Connecticut for £200 a tun when I left that place.

I cannot answer your Letter relating to all matters contained therein without the Concurrence of General Warren. you may Expect to hear from us as soon as he returns. A Ship about 400 tons from Bristol for Jamaica with a valuable Cargoe Sent in last Evening by Smedley and Parker of Connecticutt. they at the same time Captured another Ship more valuable which we hourly expect.

We are your most humble Servts

in behalf of the Board

JOHN DESHON

Honble Willm Vernon Esq [Providence].

JAMES WARREN AND JOHN DESHON TO WILLIAM VERNON.

Navy Board Eastern department
Boston June 10, 1778

Sir

In answer to yours of the 5th we wish Some Suitable person might be directed to Examine and receive the Iron of Messrs Potter and Sands, least they should mix some of Inferior quality, or make some Mistake in the weight. it is also necessary that the Anchors of the Syrene should be sent round to Norwich, and the board should know the Weight of them as soon as possible in order to Settle with Mr Babcock. The Blunderbusses you mention are very much wanted for the Navy. We shall be Glad to have them forwarded to this place. the other Articles we want much, however if they are delivered to General Sullivan, we will

say no more about them. As to the Cannon, we had rather wait Untill we hear again from Majr Huntington than to Engage them immediatly of the Browns at their Extravagant price.

Capt. Manley is now on Tryall at a Court Martial. Thursday is appointed for the determination of this Court. Capt. McNeills comes on Friday next. he Conducts in the present Similar to what he did in the former Court of Enquiry, which is to Create as much Charge and perplexity as possible. Capt. Thomson's Tryall comes on immediatly after McNeills and after him H Harkers Court of Enquiry concerning the loss of the Columbus. Mr Brown is appointed 1t Lieut of the Warren. Capt Hopkins has about 140 men and will be ready to Sail in ten days, if Manned. The Raleigh is Cleaned, Waits the Appointment of a Commander from Congress or the Marine Comtee at Yorktown, this board not being Inpowered to Appoint one. The Dean wants many repairs. The Carpenters are at work on hef and the Resistance, who wants repairs also. the Queen of France lyes by the Walls waiting orders from Congress. on last Saturday received a Supply of Cash from the Marine board Yorktown *50,000 dollars*, which sum we stood in much need of. We send Colo Tillinghast by this Conveyance five thousand dollars for the purpose of paying the debts you mention in your former, and also to Enable him to pay of the officers and Seamen belonging to the Providence their prize money, he having made use of their prize money in order to dispatch the Providence. We wish we could send you news of the Safe arrival of the Boston in France, but it is not in our power. Your dispatches shall be carefully forwarded by the first Opportunity which will be to morrow if the wind suits.

We can assure you the Small pox is almost Clear of the Town, and you may now come to Boston with but very little risque of getting that distemper. we shall be exceeding glad

to see you at the board, where your advice and assistance is very necessary at this Juncture.

We are with much esteem
Your friends and humble Servts

J WARREN
J DESHON

P. S. please to give orders to Lieut Knese to repair to Bedford immediatly and act as Second Lieut on board Sloop Providence J P Rathburn Comr and if any Lieut of Marine is with you please to give the like orders and let us know forthwith.

Honble Willm Vernon Esq [Providence].

COURT MARTIAL.

Saturday 13th June 1778

The Court after the Closest Inquiry and the most Mature Consideration are of Opinion That no part of the Charge is Supported Against Capt Manley except that he was deficient in establishing a proper System of Signals previous to the Ships Sailing and during the Cruise and also of Imprudence on 30th of May 1777 in laying by for a large Ship of the Enemy to come down upon him before he had tryed her Sailing. That the Court have the fullest reason to Attribute this Conduct rather to Inexperience than any Censurable Motive. The Court are further of Opinion that Capt Manley did all that lay in his power to save the Hancock and that he did not in any Instance during the Cruise discover any want of Courage but on the Contrary great Zeal for the good of the Service he was Engaged in. The Court therefore Acquit him of every part of the Charge and beg leave to recommend him to Congress as a Spirited and brave Officer.

DUDLEY SALTONSTAL President

(Copied)

JOHN DESHON TO WILLIAM VERNON.

Navy Board Eastern department
Boston June 15. 1778

Sir

Your favour of the 13th instant I received this morning. We approve of your Method of Weighing the Iron at N. London or Norwich. the Anchors Mr. Babcock has got near all his pay for.

We request you will make the best terms you can with Messrs Browns for the Cannon and have them cast got ready and forwarded as soon as possible. We have no other dependance for Cannon but on the Browns.

We received Letters from Majr. Huntington informing us the furnace at Salisbury would not be in blast untill next Spring. Mr. Warren is gone home for a few days. hope I shall soon have the pleasure of your Company here. We forwarded one of your Letters by the Packett for France which sailed Yesterday. Inclosed you have the opinion of the Court Martial on Capt. Manley. the Court is now Sitting upon the Trial of Capt. Mc Neill. no News.

We are respectfully Your humble Servts
in behalf of the Board
JOHN DESHON

P. S. Capt. Hopkins is arrived here in a Prize who left England the 10th of April last and he says there was no news of the Boston in London then. therefore hope she is safe arrived in France.

[P. S.] By a prize Ship from London 27th April at Salem we have the good News of the Safe arrival of the Ship Boston in France, JNo DESHON

[Addressed] The Honble William Vernon Esq Providence

RESOLVE OF CONGRESS.

In Congress 25th June 1778

Resolved

That the Navy Board in the Eastern department be and they are hereby empowered to Cause to be built Equipped and manned three large gallies for the defence of Providence Warren and Taunton rivers or procure three Suitable Vessells for that purpose if Upon Advising with the Council of War in the State of Rhode Island and Providence plantations, and General Sullivan they shall judge the measure to be expedient.

Extract from the Minutes.

Chas Thomson Secry—

A true Copy

Attestd Willm Story C N B E D[1]

HENRY LAURENS TO THE NAVY BOARD.

York Town 27th June 1778

Gentlemen

Within the present Inclosure[2] be pleased to receive an Act of Congress of the 25th for building Equipping and manning three large Gallies for the defence of Providence Warren and

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[1] *I. e.*, Clerk of the Navy Board for the Eastern Department.

[2] See the preceding.

Taunton Rivers and for purchasing in Lieu of the Gallies proper Vessells for that purpose

I have the Honour to be with great respect

Gentl[n]

Your Obed[t] and most hum[ble] Serv[t]

HENRY LAURENS President of Congress.

Navy Board
in the Eastern department.

a true Copy of the Original
Attest. Will[m] Story C N B E D

JAMES WARREN TO WILLIAM VERNON.

Navy Board Eastern departm[t]
Boston July 9, 1778

My Dear Sir

Inclosed are Copys of a Letter from the President of Congress of the 27th Ult[o] and of a resolve of Congress of the 25th of the same month just now received which I forward to you by this Conveyance that no delay may take place. You will please in consequence of them Immediatly to Consult with the Council of War in the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations and General Sullivan on the Subject of them and if they Judge the Measure Expedient take measures and give directions for carrying the same into Execution. I presume if they approve the Measure as I suppose they will it will be thought advisable to build the Gallies as I immagine no Suitable Vessells are to be obtained there. however that will be better known after you have advised with them. I dare say your own good Judgment will direct you to Execute this

order with Spirit and dispatch and of your own prudence to take the Advice of Council and General Sullivan be it what it may in writing under their hands. We have no news. Capt Hopkins set out for Providence this morning and will give you the State of the Ships here. I have a hard Task alone here with so much business on hand. I wish to see you here as soon as possible

and am

Your Friend and humble Servt

J. WARREN

Honble William Vernon

JAMES WARREN TO WILLIAM VERNON.

Navy Board Eastern departmt

Boston July 20. 1778

Dear Sir

I received yours of the 16th and 18th Yesterday morning by which I learn the Columbus's Guns are Improved by General Sullivan. these we depended on for the Alliances quarter deck and Forecastle. I am not Certain of being able to procure others but if they are wanted at Providence will Try. I perceive the Result of your Conference is to procure one Vessell. I hope you will be able to get a suitable one with regard to Officers. I think no new Officers should be appointed while we have so many out of Actual Service. Lieutenants Appear to me quite Sufficient. Mr Deville is somewhere near Providence if not there and I can send you one or two more if wanted. M Knees has been here but has Exhibited no Accounts tho' I spoke to him on the Subject of those Stores. I will consider the Accounts you inclosed as soon as I have leisure. I am Extreemly Crouded and hurryed and want some help very much. I have just dispatched a Vessell to Newbury with all the Stores necessary to bring up

the New Ship. she is to come out the first Wind after Monday. the Warren sails to day to carry her to the Entrance of this harbour and then to proceed to Join the French Squadron at New York as are the other Ships to do as soon as they can be got ready. I have purchased another Packett for France. she will sail in two or three days. You may easily conceive my hands are full. Capt. Deshon promised to return if you did not but I don't find he will soon. Mr Langdon is to be here to morrow with all his accounts but I can do Nothing with them in this State of things.

with regard to Provisions all the Ships here are furnished with Fresh Beef at 1/4 or 1/6 per lb which is the lowest rate it can be procured at and that dear as it is we Esteem Cheaper than Salt and necessary if it was not.

We are at present wholly destitute of money, have Stop'd the payment of Bills for some time and have had no other resource for Sometime but to Capt Bradfords assistance to Enable us to pay the Bounty to Seamen.

The patterns for the Guns and everything relating to them has been under the direction of Mr Brown who has been here Sometime. if anything is deficient he must take it to himself. all possible Expedition must be used in Casting and forwarding them down. you will direct the proof of them which was to be Sufficiently done and I think with a double Charge of powder well ram'd and two Balls. please to Inform Capt Deshon of my Situation and urge his return. if you have any Letters for your son that you would wish to go in the Packett you must forward them without delay. perhaps it will be best to say nothing of the Warrens Intention to join the French Squadron.

I am St in haste
Your Friend and humble Servt.

J WARREN

The Honble William Vernon Esq [Providence].

[P. S.] One of the Scooners sent after flouer was drove on Shore near the delaware and lost. The Loyalty is drove on Shore on the Vineyard with a load of Flour. hope to save her and Cargoe. another Scooner to Sail in 3 days after her is not yet arrived. I therefore Suppose she is lost. The Ships Man Slowly. can no men be sent from Providence on this Occasion. I must dispatch 1 or 2 Vessells more after Flour immediatly.

. We are allowed to appoint a Paymaster in this department to pay off the Ships rolls. I have mentioned it to Mr Henderson. if you and Mr Deshon Approve of it I believe he will take it.

Mr Storys kind regards to Mr Vernon and wishes he would come to Town.[1]

JAMES WARREN TO WILLIAM VERNON.

Navy Board Eastern Department

Boston July 23rd 1778.

Dear Sir

I yesterday received yours of the 21st with regard to the Cannon. it will be some time before we shall want them, and perhaps the General will have no Occasion for them then. I dont observe by the Resolve that Genl Sullivan has given his Opinion of this Matter, but I suppose that has been done. With regards to the Officers I leave the matter to your Conducting, but must still be of the Opinion that our Navy Officers, who are Starving on their pay only, and wishing for any kind of actual Service should be employ'd. I think such a Vessell would be properly commanded by a Lieutenant, but if Capt^{s} are wanted, they may be had. I say more on this subject, because I would do justice to the Officers, and avoid

[1] Postscript added by the clerk of the Board.

Censure to ourselves. The Warren is not yet out of the Harbour. She has attempted to get out every day since Sunday, but cant effect it. I have just wrote to him to watch for the Cork Fleet. I will endeavour when 10 or 12 of the Cannon are cast to send some person from here to prove them if you can get no suitable Person there. we have no news. I am

Sir

Your Friend and Servant

J. WARREN.

Wm Vernon, Esqr

JAMES WARREN TO WILLIAM VERNON.

Boston August 17, 1778

Dear Sr

I have not wrote to you for sometime because I expected to see you in Boston. The Alliance is now arrived and will go on the ways on the Change. she is in great forwardness. I grow uneasy about her Guns. it will take Sometime to prepare the Carriages after they arrive here. I presume 10, or 12 of them (Exclusive of the three first cast which I should not Chuse to meddle with) must by this time be ready for proof. I had thoughts of sending Capt Landais up to see about them but as you are there I have Concluded it to be Unnecessary but must beg your Attention to this Matter and to have a number of them Sufficiently proved and sent forward as soon as possible. you will consider the proving them as a matter of great Importance and Employ some Suitable person to see it done. I suppose if we had not Contracted for the Cannon for the two Ships we might have purchased them now at Providence much Cheaper but that we could not know before hand. but perhaps it would be better to buy a few of them notwithstanding if to be had Cheap. as

Genl Sullivan had taken the Columbus 6 pounders, I designed to have taken 8 of the Queen of Frances Guns for the Alliance but we are now Ordered to fit her out and give the Command to Capt Olney so we must have so many of the Columbus's Guns and soon. I should be glad to know if a Cable and Anchor Left by the Providence has ever been got up. You will please to direct Capt Olney's immediate Attendance here. the Resistance is gone. the Raleigh Sails in two or three days. no news, our Expectations are from Newport

I am your Friend and Servt

J WARREN

If Mr Brown and Comp^{y} would willingly relinquish a part of their Contract say for one Ship would it not be best to buy the English Guns if cheap and good for this Ship.

Honble William Vernon Esq [Providence].

WILLIAM VERNON TO JOHN ADAMS.

Boston 17th Decr 1778

Dear Sir

The foregoing of the 22nd Octr is copy of my last, — being yet without any of your favors, since you left America, gives me real Pain for many reasons, that are too delicate to touch upon.

I hope my Son has not forfeited your Friendship by ill conduct and mis-behaviour.

Since my last, we have lost the Brig^{t} Resistance, that was given to Capt Burke. she was sent out, as far as Cape-Cod to look for Count de Estaings fleet, that was expected here, after the Rh^{d} - Is^{d} Expedition was given up. missing of them off Cape-Cod, he stood to the Southward. the third day, fell in with Lord Hows squadron, who captured him. We have now in this Harbour, the Continental Ships, Warren, Providence,

Boston, Queen of France, and Dean; The last full Mann'd and ready to sail. The other Ships are in great forwardness, may sail in Three Weeks, if it was possible to get Men, wch we shall never be able to accomplish, unless some method is taken to prevent desertion, and a stopage of Private Ships Sailing, until our ships are Mann'd. The infamous practice of seducing our Men to leave the ships, and taking them off, at an out-Port, with many other base methods, will make it impossible ever to get our ships ready to Sail in force, or perhaps otherwise than single Ships, — from which we cannot expect any great matters, indeed it hath generally proved fatal. I wish, I hope and pray for [that] an Embargo, upon all Private Property, whether Arm'd or Merchant ships may take Place, thro' all the United States, until the Fleet is compleatly Mann'd. this is the only method, in my opinion, that can be taken. They elude our utmost efforts at present, and at a most enormous expence, it was truly great before you left us, but you can scarsely form an Idea of the increase and groath of the extravagance of the People, in their demands for Labour and every Article for Sale &c. dissipation has no bounds at present; when or where it will stop, or if a reform will take place, I dare not predict. The ship building at Norwich, is given to Capt Seth Harding, and call'd the Confederacy, near ready to Sail. she is a fine Frigate, it is said exceeds the Alliance, if possible. The Trumbul remains in Connecticut River, perhaps may never be got out, unless Camels are built to carry her out.

I have taken up much of your Time, in this detail of our Navy. If its any satisfaction to you, I shall have pleasure, in being,

Your Most Obed^t^ H^ble^ Servt

WILLIAM ELLERY TO WILLIAM VERNON.

Philadelphia March 23d 1779.

Dear Sir,

Although I have not wrote to you yet I have not been unmindful of you. Our old acquaintance, and Similarity of political Sentiments have formed a connection which on my Side will not be easily broken.

The happy Situation of your Son Billy in France gives me great pleasure. When you write to him please to present my best regards to him and tell him not to forget that he is an American; nor the essential characteristics of a republican.

Capt Rathbun's Success hath given me great Satisfaction not only on account of the public benefit derived from it; but because I procured him his appointment. I am sorry to hear that he is indisposed. It would have been more agreeable to me that he should have continued on the Providence until such a vessel as you recommend should have been provided for him than that She should be commanded by a man of whom I have not the highest opinion. But I have no voice in these matters not being a member of the marine committee. I believe you have the appointment of the commanders of Vessels of her Burthen. The appointment of Officers is a matter of very great importance, and ought to be heedfully attended. Beside the disadvantage which may accrue to the public from bad appointments; the faults of those we commend may excite a blush on our cheeks. Our marine affairs have not been nor will they be well conducted so long as the supreme direction of them is in the hands of Judges, Lawyers, Planters &c. Congress are fully sensible of this; but they have so many affairs forever upon the tapis that I am afraid it will be late before the marine department is properly arranged. I showed your letter to several of the marine committee who approved of Capt Rathbun's having such a

vessel built for him as you describe, and I expect they will soon report to Congress accordingly. Make my Compliments to Captain Rathbun, and tell [him] that if among his takings he should take any good snuff and reserve a bottle for me he will much oblige his and

Your friend and hble Servt

WILLIAM ELLERY.

[Addressed] William Vernon Esq, Boston, Massachusetts Bay.

WILLIAM VERNON TO JOHN ADAMS.

Boston 18th April 1779.

My Dear Sir

The preceeding is copy of my last of the 7th [*sic*; 17th ?] Decr by the Alliance Frigate, who sail'd 14th Jany I hope she is safly arrived with you?

I have your esteemed favor of the 2nd Decr by wch I find my Son is happily situated at Montauban, with Mr. Revellataine, a Gentleman of good Character, with whom he will have opportunity of acquiring many advantages. It gives me real Pleasure to hear, he is diligent; I hope he will conduct himself with strict decorum and propriety, avoid the foibles and extravagancies that Youth too commonly run into, I know this requires advice and frequent precautions to shun the company of the vicious and debauchee. I beg he may as often receive this from you sr as you Write him.

The Dean Frigate sail'd upon a Cruise with the Alliance; the Third day, after she sail'd parted with her, has sent into this Port the ship Viper of 100 Guns and 75 Men, belonging to Liverpool, is since arrived at Martineco taken nothing more except a Light ship from N York for Portugal, going out for Wines for one of the British Fleet, wch he burnt.

The Gen! Gates and sloop Providence sail'd in Dec! the former sent into this port a Schooner from Malaga with Wines Brandy and Fruit for the Fleet and Army at N York. since that, in company with this State Brig! Hazzard, they have taken and sent into this Harbour, a Privateer Brig! from Antigua of 10 Guns 95 Men, [and] a Brig! from Halifax with Fish, — both arrived. The Sloop Providence captured a Schooner from Quebec for N York with Flour, a Brig! from Jamaica with upwards of 300 hh^ds^ of Sugar and Rum not arrived, — supposed to be either Lost or retaken. a Brig! from Jam^a^ with Sugar Rum &c. a Large Brig! with 8000 bushels of Oats from Ireland for N York a ship from Glascow for Jam^a^ with Provisions and dry Goods all safly arrived in this Port and sold for £240,000.

The Warren, Ranger and Queen of France sail'd the 13th March upon a Cruise. heard nothing from either. they sailed to Cruise in Company from Providence. The Boston and sloop Providence sailed the 13th instant to cruise in company. The ship Providence to return to this Harbour after 6 days to waite the Orders of Congress for some particular service, the other Two to continue the Cruise. We are now at the 17th Ap! The Gen! Gates Arrived here Yesterday, having taken nothing since the above, she left the Dean Frigate at Martineco Careening.

This Morning the ship Warren returned into Port, parted with the Queen of France and Ranger last Sunday, to the Westward of Georgies Banks or Shoals in a thick Fog. on the 7th Inst! they fell in with the Privateer Schooner Hiburnia of 8 Guns 45 Men from N. York, wch they took, gain'd intelligence of a Fleet of Transports from York, with Stores and supplys on board for Brig! Gen! Campbells plundering Army at Georgia. they fell in with them the next day, fifteen Leagues from Cape Henry in 15 fath^m^ Waters. . . .

JAMES WARREN TO WILLIAM VERNON.

Plym°: Feby. 28th: 1780

Dear Sir

I wrote to you last Evening Expecting, or hopeing it would have gone by Capt Samson this Morning. He went on Board but the weather not then appearing favourable he did not go on, and it was too late before it could be decided with Certainty to be a good Time. he is Exceeding Anxious to get to Boston, and will go Tomorrow if it be possible to get along. This forenoon I rec^{d} yours of the 21. and 26th I Entirely Approve of the Actives going to New London if a Cargo cannot be had for her in Boston. if it could, I should think it best to dispatch her from Boston. it will take Time to go to Connecticut. I go upon the presumption you are sure of a Cargo at New London. if not I think she had best not go. It would be a Misfortune indeed to return to Boston at last for a Cargo after great Expense of Money, and of Time which perhaps is of more Consequence. I have seen an account of the Arrival of the Confederacy at Martineco, and supposed she must have sustained great damage, tho' I did not suppose she had suffered so much. I Expect she will next come here to wind up a Miserable Cruise. however if she does I desire to have her at Boston rather than Connecticut where I suppose she will shape her Course. by her being at Boston we shall save much Trouble and I am sure the Continent will save much Expense of both money and Time. will it not therefore be best to desire Capt Deshon to order her Immediately round if she Arrives there before a Man is discharged. Capt Samson has good reasons for not sending on the Letters, except one to you from your Son which was accidentally Neglected. I leave him to give you them, and also the European Intelligence, haveing no prospect of a Conveyance but by him. I think it upon the

whole looks well. Mr. Gerry desires my perticular notice of Col. Blaine, lately appointed a Commissary General of purchases, and perticularly that I would Introduce him to any Colleagues at the Board. you will Oblige me if you will make my perticular Compliments to him and take that Notice of him, which I am sure you would if I was present to Comply with Mr Gerry' request. why is not Mr Lovel Arrived. I think when he comes he may bring an order for us to Convey him to France. whether he does or not, would it not be best to order the Mercury to be Immediately prepared for the Sea again. Capt Samson thinks some small Alterations should be made. if you are in opinion with me you will order it done, tho I cant see you Tomorrow as you are polite enough to wish, it will be soon. I have but one week more at Home, and the Wings of Time grow larger with its age, and accelerate its Motion in proportion to their Size. A Week is but a day, and a day but an Hour. I am

Sincerely Your Friend
and Humbl. Servt

Honbl. Wm Vernon Esqr. J WARREN

JOHN ADAMS TO WILLIAM VERNON.

Paris Hotel de Valois Rue de Richelieu
March 16th 1780.

Dear Sir,

Since my Arrival here, I have received yours of the 17th of December 1778, and 10th of April 1779. The News of so many Captures made by our Navy, would have been useful Intelligence, if I had received it here in Season. I beg You however, to continue me your favors in the same Kind; for there is no News more agreeable or interesting than the

Success of your Board, and our Privateers. It is by You and them that the Foundation of our Navy must be laid.

The beginning of February, as I passed through Bordeaux in my Way from Ferrol in Spain to Paris, I had the pleasure to see your Son, in perfect health, and to find that he had pursued his Studies to such purpose as to speak French very well; what proficiency he has made in other Branches of Knowledge and Business, I had not an Opportunity to Know, but as the Youth who makes an handsome progress in one thing seldom fails to do so in more, and in all the things that he aims at, I doubt not he is proportionably advanced in Commerce. There are such Numbers bound from hence to America, that You will have all the News, in detail. We have nothing from America since Christmas.

In all probability America will have an easy Summer. The War will rage in the West Indies, which I hope will give Scope both to Trade and Privateering.

I have the Honor to be with great Respect,
Sir,
your most obedient Servant,

JOHN ADAMS

Honble William Vernon Esqr
of the Navy Board, Boston.

JOSEPH GARDOQUI AND SONS TO WILLIAM VERNON.

Bilbao 1st June 1780

*William Vernon, Esqr*

Sir

Since what have already wrote you per this conveyance, a mail from France is come in and we have

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For the relations of this house to the Navy Board, see Wharton's *Diplomatic Correspondence of the American Revolution*, III. 731.

had the following advise from one of our Paris friends datted the 23d may —

"An American privateer has taken an English packett and its mail, containing dispatches from Genl Clynton which were ynmidiatly forwarded to the American Minister Dr Franklin.

Those dispatches tho' datted in febv are very Interesting as there is a very secrett and long letter from said Genl to Lord Germaine giving a most particular acct of his expedition to Carolina and saying that necessity only has obliged him to make a shew towards Charlestown in order to cover the poor state of his Army, for the works made by the Genls Gattes and Lyncoln their superiority and his want of Artillery leave no hopes of succeeding untill he receives new reinforcements which he was about sending for to New York tho' at the risk of ungarnishing that place.

He adds that the troops he found in Georgia far from being of any service they will have enough to do to keep upon the deffencive being very sickly and he finely admires the situation of the Americans lamenting his own and saying that such directions as he reced from his Lordship and the efforts he has done to countrefeitt the American paper have never succeeded."

We have reason to beleive the above as it comes from a good hand, so beg you would comunicate it to Congress with our respectts and subscrive

Sir

Your most hble servts

JOSEPH GARDOQUI AND SONS

[Addressed :] To William Vernon Esqr at the Navy Board In Boston.

WILLIAM VERNON TO JOHN ADAMS.

Boston 22nd July 1780

Dear Sir

Yesterday I had the pleasure of receiving yours of the 26th March last, forwarded from Rhd Isd by the Counte de Noailles, who arrived there fourteen days past in the Squadron under the Command of the Chevalier de Ternay. every ship of that division are in, and the Troops in tolerable health. hope they will soon join and co-operate with Genl Washington, in reducing our common Enemy to reason, who continue their depredations of Robbing, burning and plundering with unremited ardour, as you will find by the News Papers transmited to you by this conveyance.

I find you had recd several of my Letters, which was expected you would have, before you left France.

by the failure of the Penobscot expedition, and the reduction of Chs Town, our Navy is reduced to a very small number. The Alliance, Confederacy, Trumbul and Deane are the whole, except a small Ship, the Saratoga of 18 Guns, now ready to sail on her first Cruise, comprises the whole. The 74 Gun Ship buildg at Portsmouth will be Launched in Sepr. The Bourbon Frigate buildg at Connecticut River perhaps may be off this Fall. the disaster of the Confederacy in the loss of her masts you must have known, as also the success of the Deane on two Cruises, in taking the Thorn Ship of War and many other Prizes. The Trumbul commanded by James Nicholson arrived in this Harbour five Weeks past, with the loss of all her Masts in a severe conflict with a Letter of Marque Ship from Liverpool of 32 Twelve pounders and near 200 Men, bound to Georgia. she lost her mast also, had 92 Men Kill'd and Wounded, was obliged to bear up for N York, where she arrived in a shattered condi-

tion, and we are credibly informed 51 of her Men were killd and since died of their Wounds. The Trumbul had 7 Men Kill'd 31 Wounded, 6 of whom have since dyed. She is compleatly fill'd and will sail in company with the Deane, Tomorrow or next day, for the Delaware to Join the Confederacy and Saratoga. shall refer you to News Papers for more particular intelligence of the success of Private Ships of War.

I am greatly obliged in the pleasing Acct. given me of my son in Febry, not having a Line from him since Octr. I wish he may answer the expectations of all his Friends and connexions.

I think, Sr, you are mistaken in our having a quiet Campain this year. its probable it will be an active and a bloody one. Clinton has returned from the southward with all his Forces, leaving a strong Garrison at Georgia and Chs Town, and will exert himself to save an obnoxious Ministry.

I am with great respect

Sr your most Obedt Hble Servt

His Excellency John Adams Esqr Paris

WILLIAM VERNON TO SAMUEL VERNON.

Boston 23d July 1780.

Dear Sammy,

We recd (by express) last Evening at 11 O'clock, an account from Majr Genl Heath, that 15 Ships appeared in the Offing, supposed to be Greaves and Arburthnots squadrons and of superior force to Admiral Ternays Squadron, consequently will block them in, and prevent the good effects, we wished to take Place in co-operating with Genl Washington, besides another bad consequence of their intercepting the 2nd division of our Allies Ships and Transports with Troops, hourly ex-

pected. we are Taking measures to prevent this fatal stroke, by sends out a number of Vessil to look for and give intelligence to the Comman[d]ing Officer. hope our spy Boats will be lucky enough to fall in with them. I tell you this not [to] be made mention of, least our Enemies get notice of it.

I suppose the Tory gentry at Newport smile and exult upon this occation, but I hope the Military Officers will take proper notice and care of them. I think they should not be suffered to walk the streets. it seems necessary to me, that they should be confined to their Houses. I am persuaded, their are great Numbers at Newport, that will take every occation of giveing intelligence to the Enemy, even at the resque of their Necks, they cannot be too narrowly watched.

You may communicate the subject of this Letter to Col. Green, or I had rather to Gen! Heath. I have only Time to say we have no News of the Active,

and am Parentially y^s^ &c

Wm VERNON

WILLIAM VERNON TO SAMUEL VERNON.

Boston 31st Augt 1780.

Dear Sammy

I have yours of the 22nd Inst! and observe its the opinion of all those that you have advised with, that Cozzens cannot be held to a process in Law, because he is Master of a Cartel Vessil. perhaps it may be th^e^ case, wh^ch^ I much doubt, but it certainly does not exempt his effects from being attached for just debts. therefore methods may be taken to secure my debt, as far as the Bill of Exchange will go; I trust you have employed some Lawyer in the matter, and that th^e^ most effectual measures have been taken.

Are you well assured that Manley has taken those liberties with the Characters of th^e^ Navy Board wch you mention in y^r^ Letter. If he has, he is a very impudent fellow and we shall take proper notice of it, not that we think it in his power, nor all the Providence faction to injure our reputation at Congress. The little Dogs can only bark, and the sturdy Mastiffs growl. all below contempt. some of their anonimous Letters have long since been sent to Congress, wch they dispised with abhorence and sent us copys of them, but the Authers they have never yet discovered. they were infamous beyond description. as to the Delegates from a certain State, they can do us no injury. If they were inclined to it, we are perswaded they dare not presume to impeach our conduct.

Its very surpriseing that the Alliance should sail from L'Orient, and those Articles laying there since last May was Twelve months, not put on board. I can't assign any reasons of its not being done.

I have call'd at Mr Goodwins Lodging Two or Three Times, can't find him at Home, [so] that I am unable to say if he is prepared to pay your draft of £4000. I much admire Mrs Tileston did not close with your offer of £24 pr gall^n^ for Spirits, it has been sold here at £23, and I make no doubt it can be bot for less, owing to the great scarcesity of Money.

I shall not part with the Cloth. when you return call upon Mr Clark for the Interest of the Certificate. I recollect you have not got it with you. Nuting and Woodward has not paid the Ball^s^ of Mollasses due.

I am effectionatly y^rs^ &c

Wm VERNON.

WILLIAM VERNON TO WILLIAM ELLERY.[1]

Boston 10th Novr. 1780.

Sir

I am very sorry you started out of Town so suddenly. the same Evening Capt. Samuel Nicholson arrived from Phila. having leave of absence from the Admiralty Board to come to Boston, his younger Brother John Nicholson being appointed to the Command of his ship the Deane Frigate which he is to resume the Command of at the end of her present Cruise. he further informs that all the Continental Ships were to sail from the Delaware in consequence. That it was reported, when their Cruise was up, they were to go into the Chesapeake to recruit their Stores and Men. this message he verily believes was agreed upon. Which if true we are extreem sorry to hear, not that we, as a Board can receive any injury from, on the contrary shall get clear of a great deal of Trouble and Fatigue, but are fearful the Public are in much danger of Looseing the small remains of their Navy, at least of their being rendered useless for a Time as it certainly cannot be difficult for British ships of superior Force to block up, if not Capture them. moreover if this should not be the case, can stores of every kind be supplied in Virginia or Maryland, can Men be obtained to Mann the Deane and Trumbul, whose Time must be expired at their Arrival in the Chesapeake, indeed we think they were entitled to their discharge upon their Arrival in the Delaware from their last Cruise, they certainly were shiped for a Cruise only, upon no other Terms have we at any Time been able to Mann our ships. If we do not keep faith with the Seamen, our expectations are at an end of even Manning the Ships. I speak in regard to the Trumbul and Deane, perhaps it may be other-

[1] At Philadelphia.

wise with the Confederacy and Saratoga, they may be shiped upon the New invitation of Entering for 12 Months. I have given you these hints, not officially, meerly as my private opinion and that of my Colleage and make no doubt they will have their proper weight with you, and that upon your joining the board of Admiralty at Phil[a] will suggest to them what shall in your jud[g]ment appear consonant to the benefit and Interest of the Public.

I am with perfect esteem
D[r] s[r] Your most Obed[t]
H[ble] Serv[t]

WILLIAM VERNON TO JOSEPH GARDOQUI AND SONS.

Boston 24[th] Nov[r] 1780.

Sirs

The foregoing is a copy of my last of the 8[th] Sep[r] since I have your Polite favor of th[e] 27th Sept[r] by the Fortunate Cap[t] Trask in the Schooner Success, acknowledgeing the receipt of mine of the 31[t] July. I shall always think my self happy, in communicateing any intelligence worth your notice. duty, as well as inclination, leads me to give the American Ministers at Foreign Courts the earliest News of the least importance to the United States, [or] our Illustrious Allies. It gives me pleasure, that I have opportunity so frequently thro' you, of complying with my obligations to my Country.

most sincerely I congratulate you upon the Capture of the outward bound East and West India Fleet, by the Squadron of our Allies. I hope the Junction of the Cadiz and Brest Fleets, will Achieve much more interesting Capture, that of British Ships of the Line.

Gen[l] Rochambeau takes up Winter quarters at Rhode-Island. Admiral Ternay remains there with all his Squad-

ron, has within a few days, sent out three Frigates, to Cruise. The British Fleet have retired from before that Harbour. The Season will not permit them to keep the Station longer.

We much regret that Adl. Ternay was not reinforced, with as many Ships as would have inabled him to look at Rodney and Arbuthnot. It must give him pain to see the Enemy almost every day, without being able to attack them, but at great hazard.

I am under much anxiety on your not mentioning if my Bills on my Son were Paid, or not, as also of your not once mentioning his Name, in any of your Letters, especially as I strictly injoined him to open a corrispondence with your House and, if possible, to cultivate it. these kind of disappointments, you must be sensible, gives a Tender Parent uneasiness, least a Sons behaviour is reprehensible.

Inclosed you have some of our last News Papers, from them you will be able to collect the American News.

I am most respectfully
Yr. Obedt. St

Mess Gardoqui and Sons.

WILLIAM ELLERY TO WILLIAM VERNON.

Philadelphia June 5th 1781

Dr. Sir,

If you should not have sent the conti produced by the bills on Nicholson to Mrs. Ellery, please to send it to Mrs. Dana in Cambridge. If you should not find an opportunity readily leave it with the widow Phillips in Cornhill, who will take care of and send it to Mrs Dana.

We hoped to have heard some good tidings by the post of Capt Barry; but it seems that the Post-riders are so influenced by British Gold that they had rather go to New

York, than pursue an honorable route. In plain english the last Eastern mail is gone thither; all the secrets it contained along with it.

Pray was it a violent storm that separated Barry's prize from him? I suspect he is gone to Britain. The Bishop hath set his foot in our dish.

Cornwallis hath joined Arnold and they have advanc'd to Fredericksburg as it is said, laying desolate all before them. Oh! how is the mighty dominion of Virginia fallen. With a superior fleet on these Coasts, We should be able to give a good account of the enemy at the Southward as well as at New York; but for the want thereof we suffer exceedingly. When will the so much and so long talked of reinforcement arrive? A large, a noble fleet hath arrived at Martinico. Upon their arrival Rodney paraded before St Pierre, the french went out engaged, beat and chaced him 45 miles or leagues I forget which. They returned to Martinico, and are gone with 8000 men to St Lucia. I suppose it is taken; and expect before the Summer is out to hear that two or three more british islands are in french hands. I don't recollect exactly the number of the French line o' battle ships; but I think it is 27. They might spare to Admiral Barras a reinforcement of 4 or 5 ships, which would give him a decided Superiority over Arbuthnot, enable him to throw a body of french troops into Virginia by way of the Chesapeak, which with the cont^{l} forces already [there] and going thither, and the militia of the Country, might destroy the british force in that quarter. After that we might take N. York. Indeed a man more Sanguine than I am would tell you perhaps, that after the fleet had convoyed the necessary troops to Chesapeak, they might repair immediately to N. York, and we might take the british in both quarters at once. But one part of the enemy's force at a time. If we could accomplish either of these objects this campaign it would be very well.

The next time America goes to war I hope she will have a respectable navy. Our few little ships remaining don't deserve that name. I expect your board will be dissolved soon and both the boards in this district. Indeed if they should not be dissolved by an Act of Congress, they must, for a good reason, dissolve themselves. I shall not continue long at the board of Admiralty. I shall either return home or go into Congress.

Hath the State of Massachusetts called in their quota of the old Conti? What is to be done with the flood which hath been poured into it from this quarter? Is it to die in the hands of the holders of it? It certainly ought not. Congress I think should strike enough of the March money to redeem all the outstanding Conti at 40 for 1 — after those States which can, shall have called in their quotas by taxation. If not it ought to be received from those States which have called in their quotas in payment of their quotas of future public taxes. Justice, honour and every sacred name requires that it should be redeemed.

I am told that the State money here is recovering from the Shock it received by the late act of Council. That act was attended with one good effect. it sent vast quantities of the old Conti into the Treasury, where it was received in payment of taxes @ 75 for 1. Does the old conti pass at all with you? What is its comparative value with hard and State money in the purchase of European and W. India goods? I would be obliged to you for a speedy answer to these questions. I am no Speculator, I only want to realize my Salary in the best manner I can.

[Addressed]: William Vernon Esq, Boston, Massachusetts.

WILLIAM VERNON TO JOHN ADAMS.

Boston 26th April 1782.

Sir

You have long since known that the American Navy is reduced to Two Ships only, viz The Alliance Jn° Barry Comr. now in France, and the Deane Saml. Nicholson Comr. that sailed on a Cruise about Seven Weeks past to the Southward, no intelligence from her since her departure. This low state of our Navy, has caused the dissolution of the Admiralty and Navy Boards, by resolve of Congress on the 7th Septr. last devolving the whole business of the Marine department upon the Hble Robt. Morris Esqr. until Agents shall be appointed for that purpose. All those Boards was immediately closed, except ours, wch was continued until the above ships, (then in this Harbour) were compleated for Sea, then to terminate and finally end, with the delivery of all the remaining Stores, Papers Books &c &c. in the possession of the Navy Board Eastn Dept. to the Order of the Superintendant of Finances; This requisition has been made by Mr. John Brown late Clerk to the Admiralty Board, appointed by Mr. M. to receive the same, leaving our numerous Debts unpaid, subjecting us to litigious Law Suits and perplexities, disgraceful to the Office, and highly degrading to the servants of the Public, conceiving ourselves subject to reproach, and every evil that injured Creditors are but too apt to thro' out, we have refused to comply with, until Congress shall point out the Mode of exonerating our Office, with honor and reputation, thereby freeing us from the perplexities that we must unavoidably be involved in.

It [is] uncertain whether my Son returns to America this Year or remains in Europe, I am persuaded Sir, in every instance he will receive such favors from you, as his conduct

and behaviour may merit, more I would not wish to ask. I am [have] with perfect esteem the honor to be

S^r Y^r most Obed^t. H^ble Servt

WILLIAM VERNON TO SAMUEL VERNON.

Boston 1st July 1782.

Dear Sammy,

. . . . . .

We are settleing all our Accounts of the Navy Board, and selling off the remaining Stores at Public Auction. The Board owe me a Ball^ce of near £1,800 Specie, wch I am determined to have out of the Sales, therefore cannot be long absent, but as I have promised Capt Bradford a Ride to Newp^t cannot well be excused.

We have the same Acc^t of a Fleet being off the Chesapeke as you have, it does not gain intire Credit. I am fearful that you have Lost Goods in Two Vessils from Nants, and wish you may not the Third. we have rumours every day of several Cruisers being in the Bay. The State Ship Tartar and Sloop of 12 Guns went out the last Week, in quest of the Bermuda Brig^t, but they were soon drove in by the appearance of a Ship wch they supposed to be of 50 Guns, and proved to be only a Sloop of War of 18, much to the discredit of Capt Cathcart, I think. The Arrival of several Vessils is owing to the thick foggy weather we have had for several days past.

I am affectionatly y^rs &c

Wm VERNON

JAMES WARREN TO WILLIAM VERNON.

Plymouth Feby 20 : 1790

Dear Sir

A few days ago I had the pleasure of recieving your favour of the 28th: Jany last. It was certainly a misfortune to the Public, as well as to individuals, that the settlement of the Navy Board's accounts was not made in Boston ; but so it is, and we must submit to go to New York if we ever intend to vindicate our characters or get our dues. Mr Henderson has consented to go with me about the 6th or 8th March, and I believe I shall go at that time, because it is uncertain if I can get him willing to go at any other ; I have stated to the Auditor of the Treasury the difficulty and uncertainty of getting him to go with me at any other time and the necessity of it, to induce him to be prepared at that time. I should not have asked of you the favour I did, but have been building a house the last summer which has drained me of money beyond my calculations. you will please to inform me where I shall call for your money. it will be equally agreable in N York as Boston.

I am, Dear Sir, with great friendship and Respect

Your humble servant

J. WARREN.

William Vernon Esq

WILLIAM VERNON TO JAMES WARREN.

Newport 28th Janry 1794

Dear Sir

I have often had in contemplation, if it would not be proper and best, to inform Mr Hamilton, Secretary of the Treasury, that the Navy Board for the Eastern Department have in

their possession upwards of 300000 Dollrs in paper Bills, and giving directions to rid us of the charge.

As I am far advanced in Life, and the first of the board, it gives me great uneasiness, that so large a sum should remain, in the hands of the board, for upwards of Ten Y ars uncall'd for. under such circumstances, I think it very necessary to be discharged from the trust.

At foot you have a list of the bundles of money[1] hat was in the Iron Chest, that I deposited in the hands of Mr. Henderson, who informed me, several Years past, that he had delivered up to you. I should be glad, that you would write me your sentiments upon this subject and also inform me, if the money remains at Boston and in who's hands. Thus you will oblige your real friend and

Most Obedt. Hble Servt.

Hble James Warren Esqr.

I find in my Acct. settled with the Board, that I have Credt for one Years grant of Congress Augt 4, 1778 for Traveling expences 365 dollars. pray is it Your opinion, that this grant was for one Year only, or that it was to be continued.

JAMES WARREN TO WILLIAM VERNON.

Boston Feby: 7. 1794

Dear Sir

I reciev'd your letter of the 28th of last month in answer to which I need only to recal your recollection to the account I gave you on my return from New York: when I told you that I gave to the Treasury every information relative to the paper money; I gave them the sum; told them it was in my custody; that I wished to be discharged from it; that the Navy Board would not be accountable for accidents, &c.

[1] A list aggregating 311,287 dollrs is subjoined to the letter.

After all, they desired it might remain in my hands, and barring accidents, I expect to account for it. Perhaps in the time of more leisure, and not far distant, the possession of it may assist in procuring a fair settlement. I am therefore for suffering it to rest till a period when there is a chance to be attended to. I cannot give a direct answer relative to the travelling expences, because I have not the resolve by me. I should rather suppose it to be for more than one year. Will enquire and give you my opinion. When I returned from N York I stated to you my account, which left a balance of Eleven Pounds, seven shillings and $7^{d.}$ due to me; I suppose you have forgot it; when you recollect every circumstance of that transaction your honour and justice will not permit me to bear more than my share of that expence.

I am, Dear Sir

Your friend and humble servant

J WARREN.

Hon: W Vernon

Since the above I have seen the Resolve, and think it a grant only for one year then past.

LETTERS OF ROGER WILLIAMS.

IN the list of Williams's letters printed since the issue of the Narragansett Club edition (in the October *Publications*, page 141) reference should have been made to two letters written by Williams to Lady Barrington in 1629. These letters, the originals of which are in the Lowndes collection at Barrington Hall, Essex, England, were printed in the *N. E. Historical and Genealogical Register*, XLIII. 315. It should have also been noted that Williams's letter of January 1, 1666,

had previously been printed in the *Rhode Island Book*, page The scarcity of this early publication, however, furnish sufficient reason for reprinting the letter.

THE ANCESTRY OF PATIENCE COOK.

For several years genealogists in Rhode Island and el where have been searching for the ancestry of Patience Co Although the mother of Hon. Peleg Arnold, Chief Justice Rhode Island from 1795 till 1812 with the exception of (year, and although belonging to a prominent family, her pare age could not be satisfactorily ascertained. Town recor gravestone inscriptions, and files of old newspapers revea but little information. All that was known of her was t she married Judge Thomas Arnold of Smithfield in 1748, a died August 7, 1805, aged 85 years.

In an old manuscript genealogy of the Jenckes Fam compiled by Esek Esten in 1813, and recently presented this Society, occurs the following:

"Gov. Jenckes' Daughter Martha married Peleg Coo her second husband, by whom she had Patience who marr Judge Arnold, by whom she had the Hon. Peleg Arnold, E Chief Justice Sup. Court." Martha Jenckes was the daugh of Joseph and Martha (Brown) Jenckes, and married Jam Andrew for her first husband.

C. S. B

NOTES.

The *N. Y. Genealogical and Biographical Record* for Oc ber, 1900, has a few items of interest to Rhode Isla families. In an article upon the King family in Engla (p. 199) the author discusses the ancestry of Clement Ki who became an inhabitant of Providence in 1687. On p. 2 there are several references to Rhode Island Baxters.

More Seven Club Tales is the title of an interesting pamphlet recently issued by John O. Austin. These quaint tales, imaginary in structure, but founded on fact, form a sequel to the author's *Journal of William Jefferay.*

The *Newport Mercury* of August 18, 1900, prints a paper on "King Philip and his Contemporaries," read by Hamilton B. Tompkins before the Society of Colonial Wars.

The *History of Stonington*, by Richard A. Wheeler, although not a Rhode Island work, deals necessarily with much that is important to the study of our state history. The early boundary disputes between Connecticut and Rhode Island concerned Westerly and Stonington alike, and the proximity of the two towns produced frequent intermarriages between their inhabitants. The genealogical portion of this volume, evidencing much care and research, is undoubtedly its most valuable feature.

Old Wickford, the Venice of America, is the title of an attractive volume written by the late Mrs. Frances Burge Griswold.

In the *Publications of the Colonial Society of Massachusetts*, III. 89, there is an account of the Boston estate owned by William Brenton, who was one of the first settlers of Newport. The mansion house on this estate (situated on State street, between Congress and Kilby streets) had been occupied by Governor Winthrop previously to 1643. It was sold by Brenton in 1671.

The *Ohio Archaeological and Historical Quarterly* for October, 1900, records the alterations recently made at the grave of the heroes of Perry's victory. This grave, containing the bodies of the officers of both the British and American fleets, has always been marked by a willow tree, planted, it is said, in 1813. This tree was cut down a few months ago, and a stone monument erected on the historic spot.

The *Charleston Year Book* for 1899 prints in its appendix the greater part of the correspondence between Generals Nathanael Greene and Thomas Sumter, from December 12, 1780 to January, 1782. These Greene letters are said to have been printed from "certified copies in the possession of General Edward McCrady." This misstatement is corrected in the October number of the *South Carolina Historical and Genealogical Magazine*, where it is noted that the Greene letters are owned by the Misses Brownfield, of Summerville, S. C., whereas the Sumter letters are in the possession of Mr. Nightingale, of Brunswick, Ga., a great-grandson of General Greene.

The second number of Professor Ames's *State Documents on Federal Relations* includes papers showing Rhode Island's attitude on the militia question of 1812, and her reply to the call for the Hartford Convention.

John T. Griffith's volume on the life of Rev. Morgan John Rhys, in printing the diary of that clergyman, gives an interesting account of visits made to Providence and Newport in September, 1795.

The American Slave Trade, by John R. Spears, contains much that is worthy of notice for a Rhode Islander. When we recall the statement of Samuel Hopkins in 1770 that "Rhode Island has enslaved more Africans than any other colony in New England," and remember that as late as 1807 Rhode Island was engaged in the South Carolina slave-trade to a greater extent than any other state, we can realize how closely this volume affects our own community. Letters from David Lindsay, John Griffen and other Newport captains, accounts of Newport and Bristol traders, extracts from Rhode Island laws — all render the book one of local import.

The Legislative History and Souvenir of Rhode Island, 1899–1900, by William H. Taylor, is excellently printed and very fully illustrated. It contains a brief account of Rhode Island legislation, written by Josiah B. Bowditch.

Rhode Island Civil and Military Lists, 1647–1800, by Joseph J. Smith, aims to include the name of every officer commissioned by the General Assembly of this State from 1647 to the close of the eighteenth century. The volume is a mine of information to an aspirant for membership in the various patriotic societies.

Miss Georgiana Guild has recently brought out an *Ancestral Chart* for the recording of family ancestries as far back as eleven generations. The book is tastefully gotten up, and the simple method of arrangement should commend itself to every genealogist.

The January number of the *New England Magazine* contains an article to which we are glad to call the attention of all members and friends of the Society. It is a most excellent account of the Rhode Island Historical Society, by Mr. Edward Fuller, with remarkably good illustrations.

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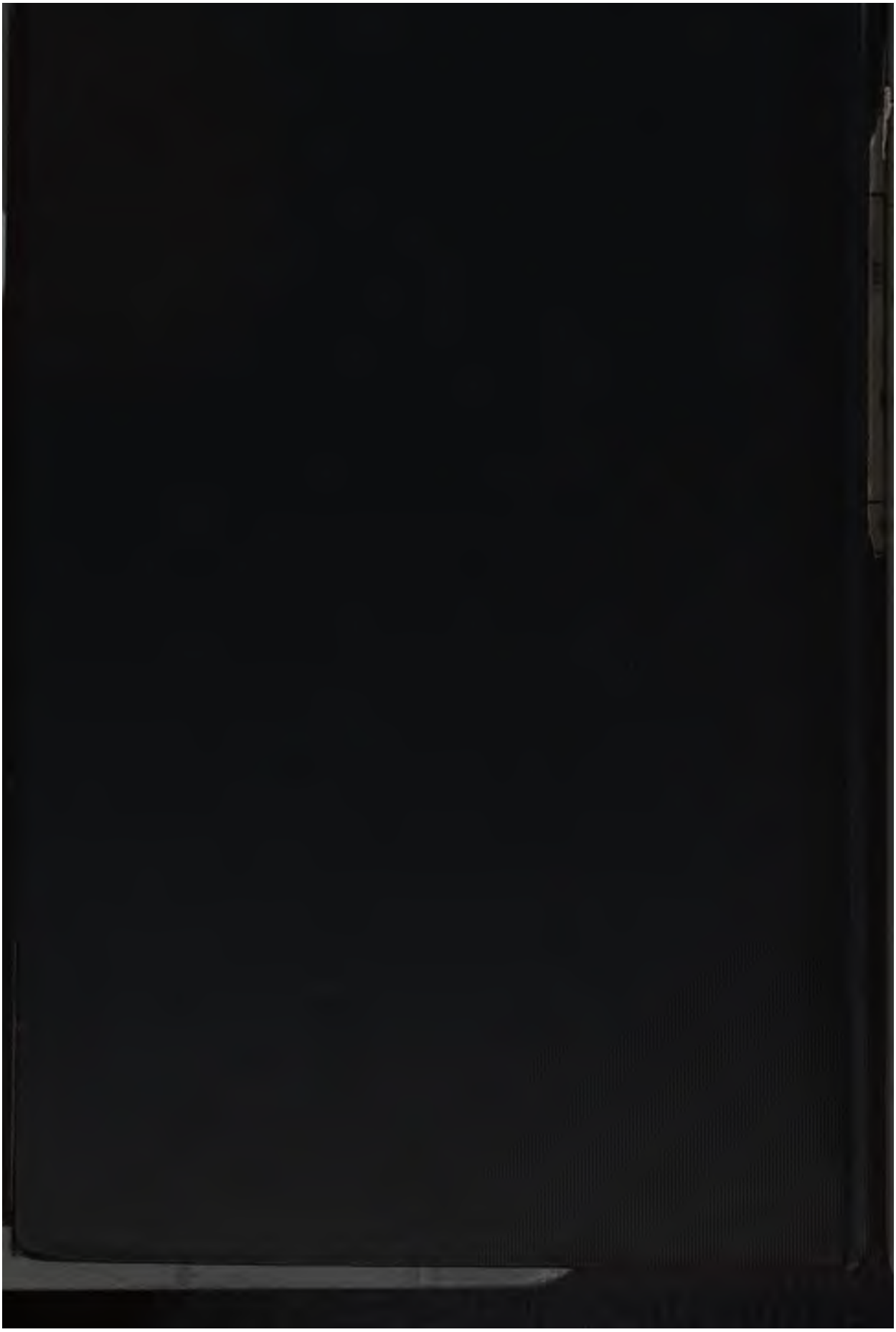
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